

EXHIBIT 24

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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DARRYL CHALMERS, DARREN CONNORS, GLENN
MENDEZ, JAMES NOVA, and FATIMA Q. ROSEMOND,
On behalf of themselves and all others
similarly situated, and AFSCME DISTRICT
COUNCIL 37 LOCAL 2507, on behalf of its
Members,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

Case No.:
1:20-cv-03389

CITY OF NEW YORK,

Defendant.

-----X

July 19, 2021
10:05 A.M.

DEPOSITION of the
CHRISTOPHER ERATH, a Non-Party Witness
herein, taken by the Plaintiffs, pursuant
to Notice and to the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure, held via Zoom videoconference at
the above date and time, before Judy
Rosenberg, a Notary Public of the State of
New York.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

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4 MEHRI & SKALET, PLLC
Attorneys for the Plaintiffs
5 1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20036

6

BY: MICHAEL LIEDER, ESQ.
7 File #: 19109

8

9 NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
10 Attorneys for the Defendant and Non-Party Witness
100 Church Street
11 New York, New York 10007-2601

12 BY: AMANDA CROUSHORE, ESQ.,
Assistant Corporation Counsel
13 File #: 2020-020833

14

ALSO PRESENT:
15 AISHA RICH, ESQ.

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2 F E D E R A L S T I P U L A T I O N S

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5 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and
6 between the counsel for the respective
7 parties herein that the sealing, filing and
8 certification of the within deposition be
9 waived; that the original of the deposition
10 may be signed and sworn to by the witness
11 before anyone authorized to administer an
12 oath, with the same effect as if signed
13 before a Judge of the Court; that an
14 unsigned copy of the deposition may be used
15 with the same force and effect as if signed
16 by the witness, 30 days after service of
17 the original & 1 copy of same upon counsel
18 for the witness.

19

20 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that
21 all objections except as to form, are
22 reserved to the time of trial.

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(Whereupon, documents were deemed marked as Plaintiffs' Exhibits 1 through 5 and 7 through 13 for identification as of this date by the Reporter.)

MS. CROUSHORE: I would like to order a copy of the transcript, please, for the City of New York.

THE STENOGRAPHER: It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and between counsel for all parties present that pursuant to CPLR Section 3113(d) this deposition is being conducted remotely by videoconference, and that the court reporter, witness and all counsel are in separate remote locations and participating via Zoom or any web conference meeting platform under the control of Bee Reporting Agency, Inc.

It is further stipulated that this videoconference will not be recorded in any manner and that any recording without the express written

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consent of all parties shall be

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considered unauthorized, in violation

4

of law and shall not be used for any

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purpose in this litigation or

6

otherwise.

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Before I swear in the witness,

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I will ask each counsel to stipulate

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on the record that I, the court

10

reporter, may swear in the witness

11

even though I am not physically in

12

the presence of the witness and that

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there is no objection to that at this

14

time, nor will there be an objection

15

at a future date.

16

MS. CROUSHORE: No objection.

17

MR. LIEDER: No objection from

18

plaintiffs.

19

THE STENOGRAPHER: Counsel, can

20

you represent to the best of your

21

knowledge and belief that the witness

22

appearing today via web conference

23

is, in fact, Christopher Erath?

24

MS. CROUSHORE: Yes, I can. I

25

do.

1
2 C H R I S T O P H E R E R A T H, called
3 as a witness, having been first duly sworn
4 by a Notary Public of the State of New
5 York, was examined and testified as
6 follows:

7
8 EXAMINATION BY
9 MR. LIEDER:

10 Q. Please state your name for the
11 record.

12 A. Christopher Erath.

13 Q. What is your address?

14 A. BLDS, LLC, 264 North Main
15 Street, Natick, Massachusetts 01760.

16 Q. Good morning, Dr. Erath.

17 A. Good morning.

18 Q. As you know, since I deposed
19 you in one other case, my name is Michael
20 Liedner. I am a lawyer with the law firm of
21 Mehri & Skalet in Washington, D.C., and I
22 and Aisha Rich represent the plaintiffs in
23 this case.

24 Dr. Erath, you have testified
25 many times before, is that right?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Because of that, I will forgo
4 the normal instructions that attorneys
5 often give to witnesses.

6 Just reminding you that this is
7 not an endurance contest, and if at any
8 time you wish to take a break, please let
9 us know, and we will take a break, the only
10 caveat being if there is a question
11 pending, I ask that you answer. Is that
12 okay?

13 A. Sure.

14 Q. Dr. Erath, do you have in front
15 of you documents that I have designated as
16 exhibits to be used in this deposition?

17 A. I don't have physical copies,
18 but I have them on the screen right over
19 there where I can pull them up with a
20 moment's notice (indicating).

21 Q. We have designated as Exhibit 1
22 a document entitled expert report of
23 Christopher Erath, Ph.D.

24 Did you, in fact, prepare a
25 ten-page report with an eleventh page

1 C. ERATH

2 entitled "materials relied upon"?

3 A. Sounds right.

4 Q. We have also designated as
5 Erath Exhibit 2 a CV of Christopher Erath,
6 Ph.D. It is a three-page document that has
7 your name at the top, and under your name
8 the word director, contact information and
9 then the word summary.

10 In this case, did you prepare a
11 CV that is as I describe?

12 A. I don't think I prepared it for
13 this case, but you sound like you're
14 describing my CV.

15 Q. I have designated as Exhibit 3
16 a document entitled expert report of
17 Dr. Harold W. Goldstein and Dr. Charles A.
18 Scherbaum that then has the title of the
19 case, Darryl Chalmers, et al, versus City
20 of New York, case number 1:20-cv-03389-AT,
21 and it is dated 6/9/2021.

22 Have you reviewed a document
23 that is so described?

24 A. Yes, I have that expert report.

25 Q. And then finally, because of my

1 C. ERATH
2 own error, the next document that I wanted
3 to call to your attention has been marked
4 as Exhibit 13 instead of four, but it is
5 entitled expert rebuttal report of Dr.
6 Harold W. Goldstein, Dr. Charles A.
7 Scherbaum, again, has the name of the case
8 and the case number and is dated 7/9/2021.

9 Do you have such a report?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Could you turn back to Exhibit
12 1, your expert report, to Page 11, the
13 materials relied upon? I want to go
14 through some of these to make sure I
15 understand what they are.

16 A. Okay. I'm there.

17 Q. Yes, good.

18 You will see that the second
19 item listed is described as exam applicant
20 data for FPIs, 6/21/21 dot xlsx.

21 Is this a spreadsheet, Excel
22 spreadsheet, that shows each exam for which
23 persons who were fire protection inspectors
24 for the City of New York at any time
25 between 2005 and 2020 applied?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. That is my understanding.

3 Q. And did you prepare this
4 spreadsheet or did someone prepare it for
5 you?

6 A. I did not prepare it.

7 Q. Do you know who did prepare it?

8 A. I received it from counsel.

9 Q. Other than that, you don't know
10 who prepared it or have no idea who
11 prepared it?

12 A. Not off the top of my head.

13 Q. And this is the spreadsheet
14 that is first referred to on Page 2 of your
15 report near the bottom of Page 2? You will
16 see in the last paragraph on Page 2, the
17 second sentence begins: I obtained data
18 showing exams applied for by those who held
19 an FPI position during the 2005 to 2020
20 period studied by G&S.

21 Do you see that?

22 A. I do see that, and that does
23 appear to be the first reference.

24 Q. And when you refer to G&S,
25 that's referring to Drs. Goldstein and

1 C. ERATH

2 Scherbaum?

3 A. Not Gilbert and Sullivan.

4 Q. Are you a Gilbert and Sullivan
5 fan?

6 A. Not their entire cannon, but I
7 am partial to Pirates of Penzance.

8 Q. Could we go down to item six of
9 the materials relied upon? Do you have it?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. It is described as OES data for
12 fire inspectors and investigators, NS
13 construction inspectors, accessed at
14 bls.gov.

15 Do you see that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Is this the data that you
18 referred to on Page 9 of your report?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Let's go back to item ten. It
21 says it is inspector title employee data
22 spreadsheet. What is this?

23 A. I'm drawing a complete blank on
24 what this is.

25 Q. Well, could this be the data

1 C. ERATH

2 produced in this case showing human
3 resources actions affecting inspectors from
4 2005 to '20?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And then above it, item nine
7 says DCAS supplement for associate
8 inspector construction spreadsheet.

9 Is that a supplement that was
10 produce separately from the spreadsheet
11 that is item ten?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Is it your understanding that
14 this supplement was produced in June of
15 2021?

16 A. I don't know when it was
17 produced.

18 Q. The 11th item refers to Ronald
19 Ehrenberg and Robert Smith, Modern Labor
20 Economics, 8th edition.

21 Dr. Erath, I went online and
22 found an Ehrenberg and Smith book called
23 Modern Labor Economics Theory and Public
24 Policy. Is that what you are referring to?

25 A. I suspect it's the same. I

1 C. ERATH

2 don't recall the subtitle one way or the
3 other, but they -- their textbook is
4 certainly called Modern Labor Economics.

5 Q. And the version that you have
6 available is the 8th edition?

7 A. It's the one that I had at
8 arm's reach.

9 Q. I assume that there are lots of
10 labor economics textbooks out there in the
11 world. Is there some reason that you
12 referred to Ehrenberg and Smith, as opposed
13 to other textbooks?

14 A. No overpowering reason. I
15 mean, you're right, there are several
16 textbooks. I've all been of the opinion
17 that Ehrenberg and Smith is among the
18 normally considered books, not the only one
19 by any stretch of the imagination, but it's
20 a mainstream labor text, so that's what I
21 was looking for.

22 Q. And as far as you know, it
23 reliably sets out labor economics
24 principles?

25 A. That's awfully broad. You just

1 C. ERATH

2 asked me to -- to agree with everything in
3 it. So I'm sure the principles are
4 accurately stated, but, you know, it's --
5 it's certainly a generally-used text in
6 labor and economics.

7 Q. The 12th item is called FDNY
8 fire inspection inspector flier. Do you
9 see that?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And is this the flier that you
12 referenced near the bottom of Page 5 of
13 your report, the last paragraph?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you know the date of this
16 flier, or do you have a copy of it at the
17 end?

18 A. I don't know the date, although
19 it has to be relatively recent, since it's
20 talking about a 37-and-a-half-hour
21 workweek, and that wasn't the case from the
22 beginning of the time period. I perhaps
23 could find a copy if you -- if you give me
24 a minute.

25 Q. Sure, if you think you could

1 C. ERATH

2 find it shortly.

3 MS. CROUSHORE: I can try to
4 find it too, Chris and Mike.

5 MR. LIEDER: It is just that
6 there are a number of fliers and so I
7 don't know which one he is talking
8 about.

9 A. I found it.

10 Q. If you could send it to Amanda.

11 MR. LIEDER: And Amanda, if you
12 could send it to me, I'd appreciate
13 it.

14 MS. CROUSHORE: Sure.

15 Q. Let's go back to your materials
16 relied upon. The number 13 is a document
17 that is described as
18 Cbu004-engineering-and-scientific dash
19 agreement, it goes on.

20 I will represent to you, I put
21 that into a search engine, and it appears
22 to be a collective bargaining agreement
23 covering fire protection inspectors and
24 associate fire protection inspectors, along
25 with lots of others from 2008 to '10, is

1 C. ERATH

2 that correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And how did you use that
5 document in your report or in reaching your
6 opinions?

7 A. One thing I used it for was the
8 existence of longevity pay.

9 Q. Did you use it for any other
10 purposes?

11 A. I can't recall anything
12 specifically, although I certainly reviewed
13 it. There may have been other things that
14 I gleaned from it.

15 Q. The 14th item is a URL that at
16 the end refers to inspector boilers. And I
17 put that into a search engine or clicked on
18 it and found that it is a notice of
19 examination for inspector boilers from
20 2003.

21 How did you use this particular
22 document in forming your opinions in this
23 case?

24 A. I was interested in looking at
25 the differences in sought-after

1 C. ERATH

2 qualifications for some of the more
3 specialized Department of Buildings
4 positions. So this was an example of that.

5 Q. Finally, there is a reference
6 to an e-mail concerning FPI applicants to
7 inspector construction position.

8 Do you know what e-mail you are
9 referring to here?

10 A. The content of it is a
11 description of the, I believe, 12
12 individuals who applied who were FPIs
13 applied to the inspector construction and
14 what happened to their applications, the
15 outcomes.

16 Q. Does it contain the actual
17 files for those individuals or merely a
18 description?

19 A. The latter.

20 Q. The latter?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Do you know who prepared this
23 particular e-mail?

24 A. I don't recall.

25 Q. Do you know what source of

1 C. ERATH

2 information they used in preparing this
3 e-mail?

4 A. I don't.

5 Q. Were there any other documents
6 on which you relied that are not listed on
7 Page 11?

8 A. I don't believe so.

9 Q. Now, you state in your report
10 that the city engaged you to review the
11 report of Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum in
12 this case. When did the city engage you?

13 A. I don't recall.

14 Q. Do you have an approximate
15 date?

16 A. Not really.

17 Q. When did you start doing work
18 that contributed to the report that you
19 ultimately prepared?

20 A. Probably shortly after the -- I
21 received the report.

22 Q. So you hadn't done some
23 preliminary work before you received the
24 report?

25 A. I had taken a look at some of

1 C. ERATH

2 the data that I understood to be produced.

3 But your previous question said ended up in

4 my report, which is critique.

5 Q. When you say had done some
6 preliminary review of the data beforehand,
7 about how long did you spend with that
8 preliminary review of the data?

9 A. I don't know.

10 Q. So is it fair to say that other
11 than that preliminary review of the data,
12 that you had no more than three weeks to
13 work on the report?

14 A. I certainly didn't have a long
15 time to work on the actual critique, since
16 I needed to see what I was critiquing.
17 I'll certainly agree with that. I had -- I
18 had the data, as we've discussed, prior to
19 that point.

20 Q. Had you done any analysis of
21 the data prior to that point?

22 A. I would say what I was doing
23 was more trying to make sure I understood
24 what was there.

25 Q. Prior to receiving

1 C. ERATH

2 Drs. Goldstein's and Scherbaum's report,
3 had you attempted any analysis of the data
4 that you had received?

5 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

6 You can answer.

7 A. What do you mean by analysis?

8 Q. Had you done more than simply
9 look at the data to see what type of
10 information was there?

11 A. I had spent some time trying to
12 make sure I understood what appeared to be
13 anomalies in the data, just so I could, you
14 know -- when I got the report, I would know
15 what I was working with.

16 Q. Aside from making that effort
17 to identify and understand any anomalies in
18 the data, had you done additional work?

19 A. I don't think so.

20 Q. Dr. Erath, do you remember that
21 I deposed you in the case of Richardson
22 versus City of New York in April of 2020?

23 A. I don't have the date set in
24 mind, but I have a general recollection.

25 Q. Roughly a year ago?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Sounds right.

3 Q. Do you recall testifying at
4 that time that roughly half of your
5 billable work was as a testifying expert
6 and approximately half as a consultant?

7 A. Sounds right.

8 Q. And would you make that same
9 rough estimate?

10 A. As long as we agree on the word
11 rough, yeah.

12 Q. So let's focus on what is
13 roughly half of your billable work in which
14 you serve as a testifying expert, as
15 opposed to a consultant. And then could
16 you turn to what was marked as Exhibit 2,
17 your CV?

18 A. I have it.

19 Q. And could you turn to Page 3 of
20 the CV under testimony?

21 A. I'm there.

22 Q. Good, thank you.

23 Is this testimony arranged at
24 least roughly in reverse chronological
25 order?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Again, roughly.

3 Q. And so that at least roughly,
4 Foster versus City of New York would have
5 been the most recent case in which you had
6 given testimony at the time that you
7 prepared this CV or updated it?

8 A. We can -- we can take roughly
9 out of that sentence. That was the last
10 one. With the understanding that that
11 deposition was actually taken
12 simultaneously with the De La Cruz, which
13 was next, so you have to flip a coin to see
14 which one was later.

15 Q. And approximately when were you
16 deposed in the Foster and De La Cruz
17 matters?

18 A. Maybe a month ago.

19 Q. You will notice that of the
20 first ten listings starting with Foster and
21 De La Cruz, nine of them involve litigation
22 against the City of New York?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. In each of those cases, were
25 you retained by the city?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So of those ten, at least
4 roughly, Worley would have been the one
5 that was earliest in time?

6 A. Roughly.

7 Q. And approximately when did you
8 testify in the Worley case?

9 A. I can guess. I don't recall.

10 Q. Two years ago?

11 A. I'm -- I was going to guess
12 three but not with a lot of confidence.

13 Q. So in the last roughly three
14 years, you have testified in at least nine
15 cases for the City of New York, is that
16 right?

17 A. Roughly.

18 Q. Now, you said that the Foster
19 and De La Cruz deposition occurred
20 simultaneously, right?

21 A. That's right.

22 Q. Were the cases brought as
23 related cases, do you know?

24 A. I don't know.

25 Q. In any of the other of the nine

1 C. ERATH

2 cases through Worley for which you were
3 testifying for the City of New York, were
4 the depositions simultaneous, as they were
5 in De La Cruz and Foster?

6 A. Only the fourth entry there
7 where they're all on the same line.

8 Q. Before the deposition testimony
9 in each of these cases, did you prepare a
10 written report?

11 A. I think so.

12 Q. Have any of the cases gone to
13 trial yet? Let me ask that differently.
14 Have you testified at trial in any of these
15 cases?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Do you know, are there plans
18 for you to testify at trial in any of these
19 cases?

20 A. I don't know.

21 Q. In each of these cases for
22 which you have been retained by the City of
23 New York in the last three or so years, and
24 I know that that's a rough estimate, have
25 you billed the city for your work at your

1 C. ERATH

2 normal billing rate?

3 A. No.

4 Q. In some of them you have billed
5 the city at a rate that's other than your
6 normal billing rate?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Have you billed the city at
9 lower or higher rates than you normally do?

10 A. Lower.

11 Q. And in which of these cases
12 have you billed the city at a lower billing
13 rate?

14 A. To the best of my recollection,
15 all of them.

16 Q. What is your normal billing
17 rate?

18 A. 575.

19 Q. And what do you bill the city
20 at?

21 A. 500.

22 Q. And are you also billing the
23 city at \$500 an hour for your work in this
24 case?

25 A. Yes.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Have you currently been
3 retained by the city in any other matters
4 in which you have not yet given testimony?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Which other matters are they?

7 A. I don't know that I've been
8 identified, so I'm hesitant to answer that
9 question.

10 Q. One case where I saw your name
11 in a Lexis report is Local 3621, EMS
12 Officers Union, versus City of New York.
13 Have you been retained in that case?

14 A. Doesn't ring a bell, but I
15 might not know the formal caption.

16 Q. This is a case alleging racial
17 and gender discrimination by officers of
18 the emergency medical service, EMS.

19 A. Okay. Yes is the answer to
20 your question. I have worked on that.

21 Q. Is this list of testimony in
22 your Exhibit 2 testimony given within the
23 last four years?

24 A. Roughly. Probably goes a
25 little farther in.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Are there any other cases as
3 you look at this list in which the city has
4 engaged you in the past four years and you
5 have given testimony that is not listed on
6 this CV?

7 A. The only one I can think of is,
8 I have worked on a lawsuit where the named
9 plaintiff is Gulino, G-U-L-I-N-O, and I
10 don't have it listed here because the case
11 is before a special master. And we've met
12 and talked to him, and it never was clear
13 to me what counted as testimony and what
14 wasn't, since it was not in -- even before
15 the pandemic was not in a formal setting.

16 Q. About what percentage of your
17 expert work within over the past four years
18 would you say was done for the City of New
19 York?

20 A. I don't have a number, but if
21 you'd like me to take a guess, I can do
22 that.

23 Q. Okay, please do. Best
24 estimate.

25 A. Around half.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. How about in the last three
3 years where you show nine of the ten cases
4 listed at the top of your testimony list as
5 being for the City of New York, is it more
6 than half?

7 A. I would say around half.

8 Q. In addition to your expert
9 witness work for the City of New York, do
10 you do any consulting work for the City of
11 New York?

12 A. I don't believe so.

13 Q. Dr. Erath, could you turn back
14 to your expert report, first page? You say
15 in the first paragraph, I think third
16 sentence: I received a Ph.D. in economics
17 from the University of Wisconsin where my
18 fields of interest included labor
19 economics, econometrics, and industrial
20 organization.

21 Do you see that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What do you mean by the
24 reference to industrial organization? Do
25 you mean industrial, biopsychology or

1 C. ERATH

2 something else?

3 A. I do not mean psychology.

4 Q. What do you mean by the phrase

5 "industrial organization"?

6 A. It's a field within economics,

7 generally understood to be the interplay

8 between firms in the competitive market.

9 Q. What do you mean by interplay

10 between firms in the competitive market?

11 A. You could think of it as the

12 study of firm behavior, how your firm might

13 respond to a new product introduction by my

14 firm, for instance.

15 Q. It doesn't get down to the

16 level of personnel decisions by a firm?

17 A. It could, although we're sort

18 of crossing into labor economics at that

19 juncture.

20 Q. You say that you did not mean

21 to include industrial organizational

22 psychology in the phrase industrial

23 organization, is that right?

24 A. That is right.

25 Q. In your graduate work, did you

1 C. ERATH

2 take any courses in industrial
3 organizational psychology?

4 A. No.

5 Q. In your undergraduate work, did
6 you take any courses in that area, if you
7 remember?

8 A. I did not.

9 Q. Have you ever instructed a
10 course in IO psychology?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Since your graduation, have you
13 written at all in the field of IO
14 psychology?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Have you given any testimony as
17 an expert witness in the field of IO
18 psychology?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Have you done any consulting
21 work in the field of IO psychology?

22 A. No.

23 Q. So is it fair to say you don't
24 hold yourself out as an expert in the field
25 of IO psychology?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. You do consider yourself an
4 expert in the field of labor economics, is
5 that right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Are there any other fields that
8 you consider yourself an expert in?

9 A. Statistics.

10 Q. Anything else?

11 A. You can throw econometrics in
12 there, which is the crossover between the
13 two.

14 Q. Have you ever performed a job
15 analysis?

16 A. What do you mean by that?

17 Q. As an IO psychologist would
18 define the term, have you ever performed a
19 job analysis?

20 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

21 A. I -- that doesn't help me with
22 the clarification I sought.

23 Q. Had you ever performed an
24 analysis of a particular job to determine
25 the job duties and knowledge, skills and

1 C. ERATH

2 abilities needed to perform those job
3 duties?

4 A. I have not.

5 Q. Would you turn to Page 2 of
6 your report, footnote one. The footnote
7 starts out: I am not a job content expert.

8 What do you mean by job
9 content?

10 A. The specific tasks performed by
11 one job as opposed to another.

12 Q. And you then say you take no
13 position on the nature of the work portion
14 of the report of Drs. Goldstein and
15 Scherbaum beyond the labor market evidence
16 that you describe in your report.

17 By the nature of the work
18 portion, do you mean the section of their
19 report that begins on Page 20, if you look
20 at Exhibit 3?

21 A. That looks right.

22 Q. So you are taking no position
23 on whether the inspector jobs at the fire
24 department and the Department of Buildings
25 are similar except to the extent of the

1 C. ERATH

2 labor market evidence that is presented in
3 your report, is that correct?

4 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

5 A. Apart from what I discuss in my
6 report, that's correct.

7 Q. And I think it's pretty clear
8 from what I asked. Is the labor market
9 evidence that you present in your report
10 presented in your capacity as a labor
11 economist, rather than as an IO
12 psychologist?

13 A. Yes.

14 I can use a bathroom break,
15 whenever you have a moment.

16 Q. I actually was thinking I need
17 to get some water, so why don't we take a
18 five-minute break.

19 A. That would be great. Thank
20 you.

21 Q. Okay, see you soon.

22 (Whereupon, a short recess was
23 taken.)

24 Q. Dr. Erath, at the bottom of
25 Page 2 of your report, Exhibit 1, you said

1 C. ERATH

2 that the data that you obtained about exams
3 for which people holding an FPI position by
4 2005 to '20 covered 669 fire protection
5 inspectors.

6 Do you see that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you make any attempt to
9 determine the number of FPIs during the
10 period of May 2017 through the end of the
11 data?

12 A. No.

13 Q. You may have noted that on Page
14 11 of their report, Drs. Goldstein and
15 Scherbaum state that there were a total of
16 507 unique individuals during that period
17 of 2017 to 2020. Do you see that?

18 A. I'm sorry, which page?

19 Q. Page 11, second paragraph.

20 A. I see it.

21 Q. Did you attempt to replicate
22 that number?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And were you able to do so?

25 A. I may not have gotten precisely

1 C. ERATH

2 507 but something quite close to that if
3 not.

4 Q. Could you turn to Drs.
5 Goldstein and Scherbaum's report, original
6 report on pages nine to ten, Table 1?

7 A. I'm there.

8 Q. And you will see that this
9 table presents their counts of the number
10 of fire protection inspectors and the
11 number of Department of Building inspectors
12 with various job titles. Is that what it
13 purports to do?

14 A. That is how they describe it,
15 yes.

16 Q. And then you state in your
17 report on Page 8 that you could replicate
18 some of their numbers but not all of them,
19 is that correct?

20 A. It is correct that I could
21 replicate some of them, yes.

22 Q. Were you able to replicate the
23 numbers that they gave for fire protection
24 inspectors?

25 A. Some of them.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Do you know which ones for the
3 fire protection inspectors you were not
4 able to replicate?

5 A. I didn't make specific note of
6 it, but the recollection I have is, it was
7 more problematic for the later years.

8 Q. Here I am asking just about the
9 fire protection inspectors, not the DOB
10 inspectors. You are saying even for the
11 fire protection inspectors, it was
12 problematic in the later years?

13 A. That's my recollection,
14 although I did preface it by saying I did
15 not take notes as to which years matched
16 and which did not.

17 Q. Even if you didn't take notes
18 on which years, did you note how many of
19 the years you had a disagreement on their
20 counts of fire protection inspectors?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Again limited to fire
23 protection inspectors, were any of the
24 disagreements in numbers where you weren't
25 able to replicate by more than five

1 C. ERATH

2 percent?

3 A. I don't recall specifically,
4 but my guess would be no.

5 Q. You said your guess would be
6 no?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Now, you go on to state at Page
9 8 that their counts are off for associate
10 construction inspectors in 2020 when they
11 report 98 people with that title, even
12 though the title was eliminated in 2019.

13 Do you see that?

14 A. I see that example of a
15 mistake, yes.

16 Q. Have you reviewed their
17 rebuttal report?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And they explain that they did
20 double count where construction inspectors
21 moved in a year between the associate and
22 the non-associate level position, is that
23 right?

24 A. Frankly, I found their
25 explanation somewhat confusing. You're

1 C. ERATH

2 right that they did admit to double
3 counting and particularly in regard to the
4 2020 associate inspector construction, but
5 it wasn't clear to me if that was the
6 extent of the double counting they were
7 admitting to.

8 Q. Let's look at their rebuttal
9 report, which was marked as Exhibit 13, and
10 look at the appendix A, which is a series
11 of tables, and the first of them, which is
12 Table 1.

13 Now, you will see in Table 1
14 that there are for four years numbers in
15 bold below numbers in regular type. Do you
16 see that for 2007, 2008, 2019, and '20?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And do you understand from the
19 report that Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum
20 considered the bolded numbers the corrected
21 numbers?

22 A. That sounds right.

23 Q. Did you attempt to replicate
24 the bolded numbers to see if you agreed
25 with those bolded numbers?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. No.

3 Q. Do you have any understanding
4 as you sit here today whether you think
5 that the numbers as they appear in bold are
6 correct or incorrect?

7 A. Like I said, I haven't checked
8 them.

9 Q. Could you turn to the next page
10 of the rebuttal report, Table 2? And --

11 A. I'm sorry, the rebuttal report?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. And you will again see numbers
15 in bold for 2007, '08, '19 and '20.

16 Did you attempt to replicate
17 the numbers in bold?

18 A. No.

19 Q. You will see that under
20 associate inspector construction, it now
21 shows zero individuals in 2020. Do you see
22 that?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Is that your understanding of
25 what the numbers should be in 2020?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. I asked you generally, but to
4 be specific, did you check the number in
5 2019 to see if you agreed with it?

6 A. I did not.

7 Q. You said that you didn't
8 understand part of Drs. Goldstein and
9 Scherbaum's explanation for the changes in
10 numbers. What didn't you understand about
11 it?

12 A. As I said, it was clear they
13 were saying there was double counting in
14 their original report, just the extent of
15 it wasn't clear to me.

16 Q. Could you turn to Drs.
17 Goldstein and Scherbaum's original report,
18 and then to Page 13, which contains
19 Table 3?

20 A. I have it.

21 Q. If you have the ability to have
22 two documents open at once, I am also going
23 to be asking you about their rebuttal
24 report, Table 3, which is the revised
25 version of that.

1 C. ERATH

2 Do you have that?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. Table 3 lists the percentage of
5 minority and white inspectors in the fire
6 department and the Department of Buildings
7 in each fiscal year, is that correct?

8 A. I believe it's intended to be
9 as of the end of each fiscal year.

10 Q. I believe you are correct in
11 that.

12 In your report, you do not
13 identify any of these percentages in Table
14 3 that were incorrect? Is it correct that
15 you have not identified any numbers or
16 percentages that were incorrect?

17 A. I think you are right. I
18 didn't specifically talk about the
19 percentages, although obviously if the
20 counts are wrong, the percentages are going
21 to be affected as well.

22 Q. Did you attempt to replicate
23 the percentages that are shown in Table 3?

24 A. No.

25 Q. If you look at rebuttal report,

1 C. ERATH

2 Table 3, which are what they purport to be,
3 the corrected numbers, did you attempt to
4 replicate those?

5 A. No.

6 Q. So you have no basis as you sit
7 here now for saying whether these
8 percentages are correct or incorrect?

9 A. I have not checked them.

10 Q. You do report in your report on
11 Page 8 about halfway down the page that --
12 have you found it?

13 A. I'm looking at Page 8.

14 Q. Okay. The report about halfway
15 down the page that the listed race in the
16 spreadsheet for a single individual can be
17 reported in one year but not another, and
18 you see no indication that Drs. Goldstein
19 and Scherbaum used that information to fill
20 in this race. Do you see that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How did you determine that the
23 listed race in the spreadsheet for a single
24 individual can be reported in one year but
25 not in another?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Reviewing the data.

3 Q. And you are not saying that the
4 spreadsheet was blank in a given year,
5 rather, what you are saying is that the
6 race was unidentified in one year and that
7 it might be identified in another, is that
8 correct?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. So did you use the race
11 information from one year to fill in the
12 missing race information in other years?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Do you know how filling in that
15 information would have changed Drs.
16 Goldstein and Scherbaum's counts by race?

17 A. I do not.

18 Q. Or how it would have impacted
19 the percentages that they report in that
20 rebuttal Table 3?

21 A. I have not performed that
22 calculation.

23 Q. Did you make any assessment of
24 how often that type of change occurred?

25 A. No formal assessment. It's

1 C. ERATH

2 something that I saw happening a number of
3 times, but I did not render it to a figure.

4 Q. Does it seem right to you that
5 there were a total of only 38 such changes
6 over all the years?

7 A. That seems low, but like I
8 said, I did not do a count.

9 Q. Did you attempt to assess in
10 what direction the changes were?

11 A. What do you mean?

12 Q. Well --

13 A. Excuse me, sorry.

14 Q. Are you okay?

15 A. I think so.

16 Q. Do you want to take a break for
17 a couple of minutes?

18 A. I'm fine.

19 Q. We went back and looked, and to
20 the best of our knowledge, there were a
21 total of 21 changes among DOB inspectors,
22 and 15 of them went from unknown to white.
23 Does that sound right to you, that that was
24 the predominant change among DOB
25 inspectors?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I did not investigate
3 predominants.

4 Q. If Dr. Scherbaum had gone back
5 and changed the race of those 15
6 individuals from unknown to white, it would
7 have increased the white percentage among
8 DOB inspectors, is that right?

9 A. If that's the only change he
10 made, yes.

11 Q. Do you know whether most of the
12 changes at fire department were from a one
13 or more minority designations to unknown?

14 A. I'm sorry, most of what?

15 Q. That most of the changes went
16 from a designation of someone as a racial
17 minority, whether black or Hispanic, to
18 unknown race?

19 A. I don't know one way or the
20 other.

21 Q. Where someone was changed from
22 a designation as a racial minority or white
23 to unknown, what do you believe that Drs.
24 Goldstein and Scherbaum should have done?

25 A. Given that the individual has

1 C. ERATH

2 an identified race at some point, they
3 should have taken a look at what the effect
4 would have been if they didn't use that
5 identified race for that person rather than
6 dropping it.

7 Q. So if they had done that where
8 someone had been designated as minority and
9 then it was changed to unknown and they had
10 counted them as minority, that would have
11 increase the minority percentages at FDNY,
12 is that correct?

13 A. If that's the only change that
14 was made.

15 Q. Let's assume that there were
16 only these 38 changes. Do you believe this
17 would have had any impact on the opinions
18 that Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum reached
19 about the differences in race between the
20 two work forces?

21 A. I'm not going to speak for
22 them.

23 Q. Do you believe it would have
24 had any change in the outcome of the
25 analyses that they did concerning

1 C. ERATH

2 compensation?

3 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

4 A. Again, not my place to speak

5 for them.

6 Q. Could you look again at

7 rebuttal, Table 3? You will see that the

8 last column in the table purports to show

9 the percentage of the DOB inspectors who

10 were white divided by the percentage of the

11 fire department inspectors who were white.

12 Do you see that?

13 A. I see the column, yes.

14 Q. Did you attempt to replicate

15 these numbers to determine whether they

16 were calculated correctly?

17 A. No.

18 Q. It purports to show that in

19 every year between 2005 and 2020, the

20 percentage of white inspectors at the

21 Department of Buildings was at least 60

22 percent higher than the percentage of white

23 fire protection inspectors, is that

24 correct?

25 A. That is what it purports to

1 C. ERATH

2 show.

3 Q. Do you have any basis for
4 disputing that that ratio was always at
5 least 60 percent higher during the period
6 2005 through '20?

7 A. I have not attempted to
8 calculate any such ratios.

9 Q. Could you turn back to Page 8
10 of your report? You state in the next to
11 last paragraph, the last sentence, that
12 every statistical test G&S report rests
13 upon the assumption that inspectors at FDNY
14 and DOB should have identical racial
15 composition.

16 Do you see that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And are you referring to by
19 statistical tests to the Z score test and
20 the Fishers Exact Test that they report in
21 their Tables 4 and 5?

22 A. I believe that is the case,
23 yes.

24 Q. Were you referring to any other
25 tasks other than those two types of tests?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Table 4 has a two standard
3 deviation test. If that's what you're
4 referring to as Z score, then yes, we've
5 covered that one.

6 Q. Yes, that's what I was
7 referring to.

8 A. Then we've got it.

9 Q. Are there any tests that you
10 believe they could have performed to
11 properly compare the racial makeup of the
12 FDNY and DOB inspectors?

13 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

14 A. To do a proper test, they would
15 have had to take the applicant pools into
16 account.

17 Q. Do you know whether information
18 about the racial composition of the
19 applicant pools has been made available in
20 this case?

21 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

22 A. I don't -- I don't believe it
23 has.

24 Q. You believe that the
25 requirements to be minimal requirements to

1 C. ERATH

2 be a DOB inspector are more difficult to
3 meet than the minimum requirements to be a
4 Fire Protection Inspector?

5 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

6 A. Difficult is a subjective term.
7 They are certainly different.

8 Q. Do you have any reason to
9 believe that the percentage of
10 African-Americans who would meet the
11 minimum requirements to be a DOB inspector
12 are different than the percentage of -- I
13 said African. Let me start over.

14 Do you have any reasons to
15 believe that the percentage of individuals
16 who were racial minorities and applied to
17 become a Department of Buildings inspector
18 are any different than the percentage of
19 minorities among the poor who applied to
20 become a Fire Protection Inspector?

21 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

22 A. I have not studied those data,
23 but you wouldn't just want to look at
24 people who apply. You want to look at
25 people who were -- who met the minimum

1 C. ERATH

2 qualifications.

3 Q. And do you have any reason to
4 think that those who met the minimum
5 qualifications among the applicants were
6 different in racial composition?

7 A. I have not studied the data.

8 Q. In the absence of that data to
9 study, is the most that you believe that an
10 expert who wanted to compare the racial
11 makeup of the fire department and
12 Department of Building inspectors do is to
13 report the percentages of white and
14 minority inspectors in each agency?

15 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

16 A. I mean, you say the most you
17 can do. I mean, without looking at who met
18 the qualifications, I don't think it's a
19 terribly useful exercise one way or the
20 other.

21 You know, if you're asking me
22 if you have data only on head counts then,
23 you know, perhaps you shouldn't take that
24 next step without having the correct data
25 to do this sort of analysis.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Could you turn to Table 17 of
3 the Goldstein Scherbaum report, which is at
4 Page 43, and the corrected table and the
5 rebuttal report, which is Table 6. Have
6 you found them?

7 A. I am looking at Table 6 in the
8 rebuttal report. The -- I'm sorry, you
9 said -- oh, Table 17?

10 Q. Yes.

11 A. Got you, yeah, I have them.
12 Sorry.

13 Q. Okay. These tables report the
14 average salary per hour of fire department
15 and Department of Building inspectors, both
16 new hires and incumbents, is that right?

17 A. That's what it says.

18 Q. In your report, you don't state
19 any disagreements with any of these
20 numbers, is that correct?

21 A. I think I have a fairly large
22 disagreement with the entire concept.

23 Q. And we will get to that. But
24 in terms of the math, did you have a
25 disagreement with any of the numbers?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I did not try to replicate
3 them.

4 Q. Did you look at their coding
5 that was produced to you or produced to the
6 city and presumably given to you to see if
7 you thought their coding was incorrect?

8 A. Generally, yes. In this part,
9 I don't recall looking specifically at this
10 part.

11 Q. When you say "generally, yes,"
12 what do you mean by generally, yes? You
13 looked at the coding generally?

14 A. Yes. I mean, that's where I
15 gleaned, for instance, the double counting
16 problem.

17 Q. But you didn't look at the
18 coding for this one, you are saying?

19 A. I don't have any recollection
20 of it. I may have.

21 Q. So as far as you know now, the
22 differences per hour between the average
23 salary of fire department and Department of
24 Building inspectors, new hire inspectors,
25 that they report are correct?

1 C. ERATH

2 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

3 A. I don't know one way or the
4 other.

5 Q. And the same is true for what
6 they report in terms of incumbent
7 inspectors, that you don't know one way or
8 another whether the figures are correct?

9 A. I did not attempt to verify
10 them.

11 Q. Now, part of your critique is
12 that Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum did not
13 consider the value to fire protection
14 inspectors if they did not work a 40-hour
15 week, is that correct?

16 A. Part of it, yes.

17 Q. And I am going to discuss that
18 later, but I want to focus for now on their
19 efforts to compare pay, salary.

20 Do you agree that in comparing
21 salaries, it was proper for them to convert
22 salaries to their hourly rates?

23 A. So in answering that question,
24 contingent on some value being given to
25 that sort of comparison, you're asking me

1 C. ERATH

2 would -- if I have to do that, would I use
3 salary or an hourly rate?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. In -- with that constraint, the
6 hourly rate is superior, although you would
7 want to look at what people are actually
8 paid, which is not what they do.

9 Q. And by what people are actually
10 paid, including other types of pay beyond
11 salary, is that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. But if I understood your
14 answer, if you were to try to compare
15 salaries, you believe it would be
16 appropriate to convert to hourly rate, as
17 they did?

18 A. You omitted both of my caveats
19 there. But putting them back in, it is
20 better to look at an hourly rate than
21 salaried rate -- than a salary. But again,
22 subject to what we -- what I mentioned in
23 my previous answer.

24 Q. With the caveats that you have
25 expressed, in this case, did Drs. Goldstein

1 C. ERATH

2 and Scherbaum do the conversion from salary
3 to hourly rates correctly?

4 A. I did not check that.

5 Q. If you look at rebuttal report,
6 Table 6 you will see that Drs. Scherbaum
7 and Goldstein present the average salary
8 for new hires, then incumbents for the fire
9 department and Department of Buildings in a
10 difference per hour and then finally
11 statistical significance. Do you see that?

12 A. Those are the column heads.

13 Q. And did you attempt to
14 replicate their calculations of whether the
15 differences were statistically significant?

16 A. No.

17 Q. They determined statistical
18 significance using T-tests, one for new
19 hires and one for incumbents, is that
20 correct?

21 A. I see them talking about an
22 analysis of variants.

23 Q. Was that the discussion of the
24 analysis of variants in connection with
25 rebuttal Table 6 or the analogous Table 17

1 C. ERATH

2 in the original report?

3 A. Yeah, I'm looking at the
4 original report.

5 Q. Is an analysis of variants a
6 T-test?

7 A. It's a relative of T-tests.

8 Q. Is that an appropriate type of
9 methodology to compare average salaries of
10 two groups, given your caveats?

11 A. A T-test?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. If you're not trying to take
14 any other characteristics into account, if
15 you're -- you're basically assuming there
16 are no other relevant factors, so I should
17 just compare average A to average B, then
18 yes, a T-test is fine.

19 Q. Did you review their
20 programming to determine whether they
21 performed the T-test correctly?

22 A. No.

23 Q. One of your caveats, one of
24 your criticisms, is that they were asked to
25 analyze compensation, and they analyzed

1 C. ERATH

2 only differences in base salary, is that
3 correct?

4 A. I'm not sure what you're asking
5 me, but I do say, yes, they should have
6 looked beyond base salary.

7 Q. And you refer in your report to
8 length of service as length of service,
9 bumps in pay as one of those other types of
10 payment, is that correct?

11 A. That is correct.

12 Q. And you don't identify any
13 others, but you say there are some other
14 lesser payments, is that also right?

15 A. I believe so.

16 Q. You don't include in your
17 report any analysis of these other pay
18 components, do you?

19 A. I do not.

20 Q. Did you form any analysis on
21 these other types of pay components to see
22 if there were disparities between FDNY and
23 DOB inspectors in the amount they received?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Both fire department and

1 C. ERATH

2 Department of Building inspectors can
3 qualify for length of service and other
4 types of bumps in pay, is that right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Do you know as you sit here
7 today whether fire department or Department
8 of Building inspectors on average
9 receive -- which of these received more in
10 these types of pay components?

11 A. I do not.

12 Q. So if Department of Building
13 inspectors will now receive more than fire
14 department inspectors in these types of
15 increases on average, it would increase the
16 compensation differentials, whereas if it
17 went the other way it would decrease them,
18 is that right?

19 A. I'm struggling with your use of
20 compensation differentials. If you're
21 talking about increasing or decreasing what
22 Goldstein and Scherbaum find, yes, then I
23 agree.

24 Q. So if you had been asked to
25 analyze whether there were disparities in

1 C. ERATH

2 pay between fire protection inspectors and
3 Department of Building inspectors, you
4 certainly would have looked at salary as
5 stated, isn't that correct?

6 A. Yes, salary would be a
7 component of -- of a proper analysis.

8 Q. And you also would have looked
9 at these other components, is that right?

10 A. These other components being?

11 Q. Length of service and these
12 other lesser pay implements.

13 A. I certainly would have
14 considered all elements of compensation.

15 MS. CROUSHORE: I object to the
16 form of that question.

17 Q. So if you were tasked with
18 doing this, how could you have integrated
19 the differences in pay with these -- I'm
20 sorry, differences in salary with these
21 other types of pay increments?

22 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

23 A. Not sure what -- I'm not sure
24 what you're asking.

25 Q. If you had been asked to

1 C. ERATH

2 analyze whether fire protection inspectors
3 or Department of Building inspectors were
4 paid more or whether they were paid the
5 same, and you knew that both of them
6 received salaries and both received these
7 other types of increments in pay, how would
8 you have gone about integrating these
9 different types of pay to determine whether
10 fire protection inspectors or Department of
11 Building inspectors were paid more?

12 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

13 A. Presuming you saw some value in
14 such an analysis, you could take a look at
15 each of the other components of pay beyond
16 salary and make a decision whether those
17 should be included or not.

18 Q. And what would you base your
19 decision on whether they should be included
20 or not?

21 A. Hard to say in abstract.
22 Something like longevity differentials that
23 are, as I understand it, automatic per the
24 collective bargaining agreement. I think
25 if there's an assignment differential that

1 C. ERATH

2 a small fraction of people in one job
3 receive for, you know, a very different
4 sign-up than everybody else does, perhaps
5 not. But, you know, you would have to take
6 a look at each one.

7 Q. Did you look at all the
8 relative importance of salary compared to
9 these other components in total
10 compensation?

11 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

12 A. No.

13 Q. So you don't know whether these
14 other components comprise ten percent of
15 total compensation or one percent or what
16 it might be?

17 A. I mean, we would have to talk
18 about defining what you mean by total
19 compensation in -- to answer that question.
20 But I didn't perform any sort of
21 mathematical calculation to say, you know,
22 there's this much in differentials, that
23 much in salary, that much in benefits or
24 anything along those lines.

25 Q. Do you know whether the average

1 C. ERATH

2 length of service and other pay components
3 was less than two percent of the average
4 compensation and salary?

5 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

6 A. I do not.

7 Q. You do agree though, don't you,
8 that salary was a much larger component of
9 pay than these other forms of compensation?

10 A. If you're speaking of the
11 differential such as the longevity
12 differential, yes, salary is certainly
13 larger than those differentials.

14 Q. But again, you don't know how
15 much larger?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Do you have any basis for
18 believing that if Drs. Goldstein and
19 Scherbaum have factored in longevity and
20 other differentials into their salary
21 analysis, that their findings of
22 statistically significant pay differences
23 between fire department and DOB inspectors
24 would have changed?

25 A. I don't know one way or the

1 C. ERATH

2 other.

3 Q. Let's turn to Table 8 in the
4 rebuttal report.

5 Did you attempt to replicate
6 any of the numbers in Table 8?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Or to determine whether
9 Drs. Goldstein's and Scherbaum's
10 calculations at the disparities were
11 statistically significant were correct?

12 A. I did not attempt to replicate
13 the numbers in this table.

14 Q. Or the statistical significance
15 determinations?

16 A. That's right.

17 Q. In their original report,
18 starting at Page 46, don't Drs. Goldstein
19 and Scherbaum start to describe a multiple
20 regression analysis that they performed?

21 A. They say so, yes.

22 Q. And they report the results of
23 that multiple regression analysis in Table
24 20 on Pages 47 and 48?

25 A. That is what they say.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. And they also have corrected
3 numbers for that multiple regression
4 analysis in Table 9 of their rebuttal
5 report, is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did you review the programming
8 for the multiple regression analysis?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Did you attempt to replicate
11 any of the figures?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Now, you state in your report
14 that they made no attempt to take education
15 or pre-New York City or pre-FDNY DOB
16 experience into account, is that right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Did you perform a multiple
19 regression that did take education into
20 account?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Or take pre-New York City
23 experience into account?

24 A. No.

25 Q. To the best of your knowledge,

1 C. ERATH

2 does New York City maintain a fully
3 populated electronic record of educational
4 achievements of FDNY and DOB inspectors?

5 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

6 A. I have not seen it.

7 Q. Given your work in other cases
8 for the City of New York, including the
9 Richardson case, do you have any knowledge
10 as to whether they -- the city maintains a
11 fully calculated record of educational
12 achievements?

13 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

14 A. I don't know of such a
15 database.

16 Q. Or even one that's halfway --
17 are you aware of any electronic database
18 that the city maintains concerning
19 education that's even halfway populated?

20 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

21 A. I am not.

22 Q. How do you propose that
23 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum should have
24 taken educational achievements into
25 account?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. They should have included it in
3 their model.

4 Q. And without electronic data,
5 how were they supposed to include it in
6 their model?

7 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

8 A. They could have sought the
9 information from hard copy for a random
10 sample of the people involved, for
11 instance.

12 Q. Short of that type of effort,
13 are you aware of any other means that they
14 could have employed to include education in
15 their model?

16 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

17 A. I believe the city does have
18 partial information on education, as you've
19 alluded to, so they could have sought to do
20 something along -- using those data.

21 Q. What types of controls does the
22 city have to determine whether the
23 information in that electronic record or
24 set of electronic records is correct?

25 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I don't know.

3 Q. Does New York City maintain an
4 electronic record of pre fire department or
5 DOB experience for fire department and
6 Department of Building inspectors?

7 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

8 A. They certainly have a record of
9 their New York City experience prior to
10 joining either of those two agencies.

11 Q. Do they have a record of their
12 pre New York State experience?

13 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

14 A. I don't know.

15 Q. How do you propose that
16 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum should have
17 taken pre New York City experience into
18 account?

19 A. My criticism is twofold. First
20 is, if we were to accept that those data
21 don't exist, that does not absolve them
22 from leaving out relevant factors. But
23 secondary, again, they could have attempted
24 to calculate the -- to collect it for a
25 random sample of the people involved from

1 C. ERATH

2 some hard copy records.

3 Q. Do you know if the DOB
4 inspectors have greater educational
5 accomplishments measured by degrees on
6 average than do fire department inspectors?

7 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

8 A. I have not studied that
9 question one way or the other. The
10 educational requirements are certainly
11 different on the NOEs.

12 Q. Do DOB inspectors have more
13 relevant pre New York City employment
14 experience than do fire department
15 inspectors?

16 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

17 A. I have not studied the
18 question, but the experience requirements
19 on the NOEs are certainly different for the
20 two positions.

21 Q. Can you look at rebuttal
22 report, Table 9. There is a column
23 entitled R squared. Do you see that?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. In a multiple regression

1 C. ERATH

2 analysis, what does R squared signify?

3 A. The percentage of the variation
4 independent variable that aligns with
5 variation in independent variables.

6 Q. And what does a value of point
7 zero indicate?

8 A. No relation.

9 Q. And what does a value of one
10 indicate?

11 A. Perfect correlation.

12 Q. If one were to look at Table 9,
13 the R squareds vary from a low of point 438
14 in 2013 to a high of point 848 in 2019, is
15 that right?

16 A. No.

17 Q. And in what way was that
18 incorrect?

19 A. Point 881 is bigger than point
20 848.

21 Q. Oh, you are correct. It is
22 point 881, yes.

23 And if you turn to Table 10,
24 which you will see that the R squareds
25 range from a low of point 660 up to a high

1 C. ERATH

2 of point 933, does that look correct?

3 A. You have recited the low and
4 the high correctly, but the numbers are
5 largely meaningless.

6 Q. Given these levels of
7 R squared, do you believe that including in
8 education and pre New York City experience
9 would likely change the results of whether
10 the disparities were statistically
11 significant?

12 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

13 A. So the levels of R squared, as
14 I just said, are largely meaningless
15 because they're reviewing data coming out
16 of people that are paid per the terms of
17 the collective bargaining agreement, so
18 it's not really telling you very much.

19 So we know that the
20 requirements are different for -- you know,
21 both in terms of education and experience.
22 So while I haven't done the analysis, it's
23 certainly possible it would make a
24 difference.

25 Q. When you say it's certainly

1 C. ERATH

2 possible that it would have made a
3 difference, do you believe that it is
4 probable more likely than not that it could
5 make a difference?

6 A. I have not done the analysis,
7 so I don't know.

8 Q. As you sit here, since you
9 haven't done the analysis, you have no way
10 of knowing whether that possibility is
11 point 001 or point 99, is that correct?

12 A. Well, if I had done it, I would
13 know one way or the other, so we -- it
14 would be in the realm of possibilities.
15 Since I haven't done it, I don't know the
16 answer.

17 Q. And you don't have any
18 understanding of how likely it is that it
19 would make a difference?

20 A. I mean, I know there's likely
21 to be a difference in education and
22 experience given the difference in
23 requirements. So would it make a
24 difference? Almost certainly, I would say.
25 How much of a difference is much harder to

1 C. ERATH

2 quantify.

3 Q. And whether it would make a
4 difference in the completion that the
5 results were statistically significant you
6 do not know?

7 A. I do not know.

8 I wouldn't mind another break
9 when you reach a convenient stopping point.

10 Q. Why don't we take a break now.
11 It is 12:10. Did we want to break until
12 12:20?

13 MS. CROUSHORE: That's fine
14 with me.

15 THE WITNESS: Sure.

16 MR. LIEDER: Okay.

17 MS. CROUSHORE: Thanks.

18 MR. LIEDER: Off the record.

19 (Whereupon, a short recess was
20 taken.)

21 Q. Dr. Erath, before we took a
22 break, we were talking about the multiple
23 regression analyses that are reported in
24 Tables 20 and 21 in the original report and
25 Tables 9 and 10 in the rebuttal report.

1 C. ERATH

2 In the analysis reported in
3 Table 9, it's correct that Drs. Goldstein
4 and Scherbaum controlled for whether
5 someone was a new hire or incumbent and
6 time in job, is that right?

7 A. So they said.

8 Q. And in the analysis as
9 reflected in rebuttal Table 10, they also
10 include indicators for job title among the
11 Department of Building jobs, is that right?

12 A. Yup, so they say.

13 Q. In your report, you state that
14 time and current job has little relevance
15 under the collective bargaining agreements
16 other than they move from new hire to
17 incumbent after two years, is that right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Although you say it has little
20 relevance, do you see something wrong in
21 controlling for time and job?

22 A. It's not specified in that it's
23 leaving out things that are relevant and
24 putting in things known not to be relevant,
25 so I think that's the major problem.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. And when you say it's leaving
3 out things known to be relevant, are you
4 talking about education and pre New York
5 City experience?

6 A. We could talk about that, but
7 what I had specifically in mind was, we
8 know the form of -- or the way in which
9 time and title matters. It matters to the
10 longevity. We discussed differentials,
11 we've been discussing.

12 So there's no debate about how
13 longevity affects compensation. We can
14 read it right out of the collective
15 bargaining agreement. So to specify
16 otherwise as if there's a combined effect
17 across the -- the -- the two jobs is a
18 misspecification and therefore an error.

19 Q. Now, isn't it the case that at
20 the Department of Buildings, people may get
21 pay increases that are not specified in the
22 collective bargaining agreement?

23 A. Yes.

24 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

25 Q. And isn't it likely that the

1 C. ERATH

2 longer that one is there, the more likely
3 it is that someone will have received such
4 an increase?

5 A. I don't know if that's true or
6 not.

7 Q. Isn't it likely that someone
8 who has been there eight years is more
9 likely to have received an increase than
10 someone who's been there two years?

11 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

12 A. I assume we're not talking
13 about longevity increases here. I would
14 certainly agree with you for longevity
15 increases. The other increases, I don't
16 know the basis for which they are granted
17 and whether it has anything to do with the
18 length of service.

19 Q. Well, the dependent variable
20 here -- and I know that you disagree with
21 this -- but the dependent variable is
22 salary, isn't that right?

23 A. That is right.

24 Q. So the longevity increments
25 aren't relevant, are they, to salary?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. You are correct. I had
3 forgotten that the Goldstein and Scherbaum
4 model omitted that component of pay, which
5 makes the misspecification more severe.

6 Q. Given that the dependent
7 variable was salary or actually hourly pay
8 rather than salary, it wouldn't have made
9 sense to specify when the longevity
10 increments were realized, isn't that true?

11 A. Conditional on ignoring them
12 then yes, you don't need to specify. But
13 again, the model remains misspecified by
14 including something that has little or
15 nothing to do with the salary.

16 Q. During your career, have you
17 analyzed pay disparities between two groups
18 of employees in situations where there
19 wasn't a collective bargaining agreement?

20 A. Where there was not a
21 collective bargaining agreement?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. Yes, I have.

24 Q. And in any of these analyses,
25 have you controlled for time and job?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I have.

3 Q. Even though there is no
4 collective bargaining agreement, so there
5 is no time where it is dictated when an
6 increase will occur, is that right?

7 A. In the absence of a collective
8 bargaining agreement, I suppose it's
9 possible there could be such a time, but
10 it's not typical.

11 Q. Other than the increase after
12 two years from new hire to incumbent, the
13 collective bargaining agreements in this
14 case do not specify when individuals are to
15 receive increases in salary, do they?

16 A. Setting the longevity
17 differentials aside, that's right.

18 Q. Where the collective bargaining
19 agreement does not specify when someone may
20 get a discretionary increase, why is the
21 collective bargaining agreement situation
22 any different than the types of cases where
23 you control for time and job where there
24 was no collective bargaining agreement?

25 A. I think the chief difference

1 C. ERATH

2 here is for the fire protection inspectors,
3 most of them are paid per the collective
4 bargaining agreement at one of the two
5 rates, and therefore, a control for time
6 and title, particularly one that's mandated
7 to be the same across the two agencies, is
8 wrong.

9 Q. While the fire protection
10 inspectors typically are paid the
11 contractually mandated minimums, you have
12 agreed that the Department of Building
13 inspectors are not, isn't that right?

14 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

15 A. I agree that the building
16 inspectors are not always but sometimes
17 paid an amount above the minimum listed in
18 the collective bargaining agreement.

19 Q. And don't you think it's likely
20 that someone who has been there six years
21 is more likely to have received such an
22 increase than someone who's been there
23 three years?

24 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

25 A. I --

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Any time within their career,
3 someone who's been there six years is more
4 likely to have received an increase on
5 average than someone who's only been there
6 three years on average, isn't that right?

7 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

8 A. I don't know one way or the
9 other. Doesn't change the fundamental in
10 the specification.

11 Q. And what's the fundamental in
12 this specification?

13 A. Failing to note that the -- for
14 fire protection inspectors, the time and
15 title is largely meaningless, and yet
16 setting up the model affects the mandate
17 for it to be the same for both agencies.

18 Q. So you believe it was a
19 misspecification and therefore incorrect
20 for them to have controlled for time and
21 job beyond the two-year increment where
22 there was the increase from new hire to
23 incumbent, is that correct?

24 A. As they have put it in the
25 model, it's clearly a misspecification.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. When you say as they have put
3 it in the model, what could they have done
4 differently that you think would not have
5 been a misspecification?

6 A. For this particular issue we've
7 been discussing, time and title, they could
8 have used an interaction in turn between
9 the agency and the time and title.

10 Q. Is it your understanding that
11 the Goldstein and Scherbaum Tables 22
12 through 26 are analogous for
13 associate-level inspectors to Tables 17
14 through 21 for inspectors?

15 MS. CROUSHORE: I'm sorry,
16 Mike, could you please repeat that?
17 I'm not sure I followed the question.
18 Thanks.

19 MR. LIEDER: Yes.

20 Q. Did you understand that
21 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum ran the
22 analogous analyses for associate-level
23 inspectors that they did for inspectors and
24 that they report the results in Tables 22
25 through 26?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. That appears to be the case.

3 We know there's some issues with the title
4 designations that -- we're talking about
5 the original report, right?

6 Q. Right.

7 A. So -- but yes, it appears that
8 they are going through the same sequence.

9 Q. And they then report the
10 corrected tables at 11 through 15 to take
11 into account the double counting, is that
12 right, Tables 11 through 15 of the rebuttal
13 report?

14 A. It's a little hard to tell.
15 Eleven doesn't have a heading on it as to
16 whether it's associates or not, but I will
17 take your word for it.

18 Q. Do you have any issues with the
19 Tables 22 through 26 for associate-level
20 inspectors for -- in the rebuttal report 11
21 through 15 that are unique to the
22 associate-level inspectors and weren't
23 raised also with respect to inspectors?

24 A. Well, in the original report,
25 we have a counting issue that compounds

1 C. ERATH

2 certainly the last few years and affects a
3 couple of other years as well. But my
4 understanding is that they're using the
5 same methodology, so the same criticisms
6 apply.

7 Q. Then we don't need to go
8 through those.

9 You criticize, Page 6 of your
10 report, their analyses for being static.
11 Do you remember that?

12 A. Yes, I do.

13 Q. And is it correct that you
14 raise two different types of critiques of
15 their report as being static; one is that
16 they haven't considered the number of years
17 it takes to qualify for the inspector
18 position, and the second is they haven't
19 taken into account the likelihood of being
20 promoted to the associate level, is that
21 correct?

22 A. Yeah, broadly.

23 Q. When you say broadly, did I
24 misstate it in some way?

25 A. No, the second I think you're

1 C. ERATH

2 right, that the likelihood of promotion is
3 certainly what I was thinking of there.
4 You know, the first is what I had in mind
5 when I said broadly, which is more we're
6 just talking about the -- the timing given,
7 their qualifications. If that's what you
8 meant, then we should be fine.

9 Q. Let's start with the first.

10 You state that in the first paragraph on
11 Page 6 there are obvious differences in the
12 time required to meet the listed
13 qualifications. From the first listed
14 qualifications, construction inspectors
15 require five years of experience and FPIs
16 three. Meeting requirements in three years
17 instead of five allows a candidate to begin
18 earning sooner and move to the incumbent
19 rate sooner.

20 In your report, earlier in your
21 report, don't you show that the amount of
22 time it takes to meet the minimum
23 qualification changed for construction
24 inspectors?

25 A. I think both -- both positions

1 C. ERATH

2 changed the requirements relatively late in
3 the time period under consideration.

4 Q. In 2019 the construction
5 inspector notice reduced the years of
6 experience from five years to two years, is
7 that correct?

8 A. That's --

9 Q. This is on Page 4 of your
10 report.

11 A. Yeah, that sounds right.

12 Q. And the FDNY requirements of
13 three years of experience was not changed,
14 was not reduced, is that correct?

15 A. I think that's right.

16 Q. So at least since 2019, you are
17 saying that it is at least with respect to
18 this particular requirement, it now takes
19 less time to meet the construction
20 inspector requirement than the fire
21 protection inspector requirement, is that
22 right?

23 A. You're right, it's two years
24 versus three. I'm not sure -- you know, we
25 have to consider that more fully 'cause the

1 C. ERATH

2 construction inspector is two years of work
3 experience as a carpenter, et cetera.

4 And I'm going to guess there's
5 some requirements ahead of time to getting
6 work as a carpenter, that no one would hire
7 me as a carpenter right now, for instance,
8 so -- but if you're asking if two is less
9 than three, the answer is yes.

10 Q. There are actually multiple
11 ways to meet the minimum educational
12 experience or requirements for both jobs,
13 isn't there?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And you don't know how most
16 candidates who meet the requirements do so,
17 whether it is the experimental one or one
18 of the other requirements?

19 A. I do not.

20 Q. So you don't know, really know,
21 do you, whether it takes longer on average
22 for candidates to satisfy the fire
23 protection inspector or construction
24 inspector requirements?

25 A. I haven't done the study. If

1 C. ERATH

2 you're looking at the -- you know, the
3 listed requirements that were in place for
4 most of the period under consideration, it
5 seems pretty clear that requirements are
6 greater for the construction inspector.

7 Q. At least the first requirement
8 was?

9 A. And the others as well.

10 Q. We will be talking about that.
11 Now I want to switch to promotions. And
12 first I want to make sure I understand what
13 you did.

14 First you state that you use
15 the Goldstein and Scherbaum data file, is
16 that correct?

17 A. I don't -- I didn't use the
18 file they produced. I used the same data
19 upon which they relied. So I wouldn't call
20 it the Goldstein and Scherbaum data file.

21 Q. Okay. So you used the same
22 file that was produced by the city but not
23 any manipulations of it that they had made?

24 A. That is right.

25 Q. And from that file, you

1 C. ERATH

2 identified persons who were at some time at
3 the non-associate or lower level FPI or
4 Department of Building inspector position,
5 is that right?

6 A. The -- that's the starting
7 point.

8 Q. And this is limited to the
9 fiscal year 2005 to '20 period?

10 A. That's right.

11 Q. So they needed to have been at
12 the lower level at some time during the
13 2005 to '20 period?

14 A. That's right.

15 Q. And then you further limited
16 the universe to those who were observed for
17 at least three years, whether at the entry
18 level or associate. And I know there's
19 also a footnote saying you could also do it
20 at one and five years but let's use the
21 three years.

22 A. Right. So you're exactly
23 right. I used three in the text, relaxed
24 that assumption in other variations to see
25 if it made any difference.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. So they had to have been either
3 entry level or associate for at least three
4 years, and they had to be an associate -- I
5 mean a lower level -- for at some point
6 during those three years?

7 A. That's right.

8 Q. If someone was hired at the
9 associate construction inspector level,
10 worked for the Department of Buildings for
11 more than three years and then in the 2019
12 reorganization were reclassified as a
13 construction inspector because they
14 abolished the associate construction
15 inspector position, were those people
16 included in your universe or not?

17 A. I don't believe so.

18 Q. You think you excluded them?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That would have been your
21 intent anyway?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And then what you did once you
24 had created this universe is, is you
25 calculated the percentage of people in the

1 C. ERATH

2 universe who advanced to the associate
3 level?

4 A. We classified people by whether
5 or not they advanced.

6 Q. Now, this analysis that you did
7 applied to all fire protection inspectors
8 who meet your criteria, you didn't do, for
9 instance, separate analyses by unit within
10 the Bureau of Fire Protection?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Your reason for looking at the
13 motions was to analyze increases in pay,
14 longitudinally or over time, is that right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. But why not also factor in
17 salary changes? Why look just at motions?
18 Why not look at salary increases?

19 A. The changes to salary were
20 already captured in a salary analysis, so
21 I'm not sure what you're asking.

22 Q. Well, if the issue was whether
23 employees would think that they had greater
24 opportunities to get pay increase, why not
25 include both promotional increases and

1 C. ERATH

2 salary increases?

3 A. You can certainly do so.

4 Q. The information in those files
5 included not only promotions but also
6 nonmanagerial salary changes, is that
7 right?

8 A. What do you mean by
9 nonmanagerial? You mean other salary
10 changes aside from becoming associate?

11 Q. Yes, so aside from a promotion.

12 A. I think that we had all changes
13 to salary.

14 Q. And they had a code for
15 nonmanagerial salary change, didn't they?

16 A. I don't recall specifically
17 what it said, but my understanding is we
18 had all of the salary changes shown there.

19 Q. Isn't it true that the files
20 reflect only two salary rate changes for
21 fire protection inspectors?

22 A. In 15 years, there's only two
23 changes?

24 Q. For nonpromotional salary
25 changes for fire protection inspectors?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I don't know.

3 Q. And weren't there hundreds of
4 salary changes for building inspectors,
5 Department of Building inspectors?

6 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

7 A. I didn't count them, but I will
8 agree that they are more prevalent for
9 building inspectors.

10 Q. If you had included in both
11 promotional changes in salary and
12 nonpromotional increases in salary, what
13 would that have done to your outcome? Do
14 you think that fire protection inspectors
15 would have received a higher percentage
16 than did building inspectors?

17 A. When you say outcome, the only
18 analysis I'm presenting here is, you know,
19 were you promoted, yes or no. So are you
20 asking me if I had redefined promotion to
21 include any salary increase that's not
22 managerial?

23 Q. Instead of looking just at
24 promotions, if you had looked at both
25 promotional increases and nonpromotional

1 C. ERATH

2 salary increases, do you believe that the
3 fire protection inspectors would have
4 received a higher percentage of such
5 increases than did building inspectors?

6 A. I don't know.

7 Q. If one were looking at
8 opportunities over time, wouldn't it be
9 appropriate also to look at the possibility
10 of a promotion beyond associate inspector
11 to administrative inspector?

12 A. One can do so.

13 Q. If one had done so, do you know
14 whether there would have been more
15 promotions at the Department of Building to
16 the administrative level than at the FDNY
17 to the administrative level?

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. Do you know whether there are
20 more administrative inspectors at the
21 Department of Buildings than at the fire
22 department?

23 A. No.

24 Q. You don't know one way or the
25 other?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I do not.

3 Q. If I were to tell you that in
4 every year except 2018 there were fewer
5 than ten administrative fire protection
6 inspectors but between 37 and 52
7 administrative inspectors, would you
8 believe that there would probably be more
9 promotions to administrative inspector at
10 the Department of Buildings than the fire
11 department?

12 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

13 A. Then you would also have to
14 tell me to assume that there would be --
15 those promotions only come from
16 associate -- respective associate category;
17 otherwise, I can't answer it one way or the
18 other. But as I said, I don't know the
19 numbers.

20 Q. You also criticize
21 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum for not
22 factoring into compensation nonpecuniary
23 aspects of their jobs. Do you remember
24 that?

25 A. Yes.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Did you attempt to value
3 nonpecuniary aspects of the job of fire
4 department inspectors or building
5 inspectors in this case?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Have you ever attempted to do
8 so in any case?

9 A. The one that comes up with some
10 frequency is valuing time off -- actually,
11 that's not right. There are various fringe
12 benefits that come up as well.

13 Q. What types of fringe benefits
14 are you thinking of that are nonpecuniary
15 in nature?

16 A. Generally speaking, insurance
17 benefits would be the primary benefit
18 there.

19 Q. And you would consider that
20 nonpecuniary?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How do you go about valuing
23 time off? Let me rephrase that. Have you
24 ever valued time off?

25 A. Not with a specific value, more

1 C. ERATH

2 of bounding approach.

3 Q. What do you mean by bounding
4 approach?

5 A. Setting an upper and a lower
6 bound on possible value, putting a
7 reasonable range upon it.

8 Q. And how do you go about putting
9 reasonable ranges on the value of time off?

10 A. You look at -- at economic
11 studies that address that question. So
12 they are most typically done through,
13 willing to pay for certain activities or
14 for time off where they will look at how
15 people face choices and the outcomes of
16 those choices and try to quantify it based
17 on -- on that sort of approach.

18 Q. Can you identify for me cases
19 in which you have valued or determined a
20 range of values for time off, as you were
21 just describing?

22 A. Not off the top of my head.

23 Q. Do you know whether you have
24 included such an analysis in a written
25 report?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Ever?

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. I'm sure it's come up.

5 Q. Have you ever done such an
6 analysis in a case in which you were
7 representing the City of New York, not
8 representing, engaged as an expert for the
9 City of New York?

10 A. I do not believe so.

11 Q. Could you go back to your CV
12 and the list of cases shown on Page 3 of
13 your CV and look through that list of cases
14 and tell me whether in any of those cases
15 you have done such an analysis determining
16 the bounds of the value of time off?

17 A. I don't believe so. Most of
18 the ones listed here are FLSA cases where
19 it wouldn't be relevant consideration,
20 along with a couple of ways to speed
21 arbitrations where again, it wouldn't come
22 up.

23 So it would really only be the
24 economic loss cases we're looking at here,
25 and I don't think any of these involved

1 C. ERATH

2 time off.

3 Q. And when you say time off, what
4 do you encompass within the phrase "time
5 off"?

6 A. It could either be paid time
7 off, you know, something like a vacation
8 benefit, or a shorter work schedule, so
9 either formal or informal time off.

10 Q. If you look at your third case
11 down, Pfeil versus LabCorp, you describe
12 the case as dealing with economic loss in a
13 wrongful termination matter.

14 Do you see that?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And in that case, were you
17 representing or working as the expert for
18 the plaintiff or the defendant?

19 A. Defendant.

20 Q. And termination is in effect
21 the ultimate time off. Did you in that
22 case attempt to place a value on the time
23 off of the plaintiff?

24 A. I do not believe so.

25 Q. Why not?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I think there's a difference
3 between working a shorter schedule and
4 losing your job.

5 Q. Losing your job would give you
6 a lot of time off, wouldn't it?

7 A. In the short run.

8 Q. Aside from time off or fringe
9 benefits, such as insurance, have you
10 attempted to place a value or a range of
11 value on nonpecuniary aspects of employees'
12 jobs?

13 A. I can't think of an example
14 beyond those.

15 Q. Are you aware of any labor
16 economist who has proposed a means of
17 valuing the nonpecuniary aspects of an
18 employee's job other than time off or
19 fringe benefits, such as insurance?

20 A. I mean, the most direct
21 examples you would find in any textbook is
22 the danger of the job that you find all
23 over the compensating differentials
24 literature.

25 And then there are analogous

1 C. ERATH
2 studies looking at, you know, various
3 safety aspects as well as, you know,
4 looking at the other way the, you know,
5 positive benefits where you're trying to
6 put a value on the -- based on the, you
7 know -- the difference in the market wage.

8 Q. You quote testimony from
9 plaintiff Darren Connors in which he
10 testified about reluctance to work as a
11 building inspector because of inspectors'
12 reputations of taking bribes.

13 Do you remember that?

14 A. I remember -- I don't remember
15 if he was the one who said about the
16 bribes, but he certainly said there was a
17 difference in the reputation, I think was
18 his word, of the two agencies.

19 Q. How would you go about trying
20 to value that difference in reputation of
21 the two agencies?

22 A. I mean, it's difficult in the
23 context of this lawsuit because -- which I
24 assume is your question, you know, because
25 you would expect those sorts of things to

1 C. ERATH

2 be included in a wage rate. So we end up
3 in a circular mess if we try to do it here,
4 you know, in the abstract.

5 You know, if we're not engaged
6 in litigation, then you could look at the
7 relative wage rates, you know, akin to the
8 Adam Smith quote I have where he says the
9 wages are expected to vary with the
10 honorableness, in a word, of the
11 employment.

12 Q. But that would involve simply
13 assuming that any difference in wages was
14 that you couldn't otherwise attribute
15 values to, was attributable to these types
16 of nonpecuniary aspects of the job?

17 A. I mean, presumably if you're
18 doing a scientific study you're -- you're
19 trying to look at a number of different
20 occurrences. You wouldn't just look at,
21 you know, A versus B. You would try to get
22 an idea of what is typical -- you know,
23 what is the typical market differential for
24 these sorts of reputational events.

25 Q. Are you aware of any such

1 C. ERATH

2 analysis?

3 A. No, but I haven't looked for
4 it.

5 Q. And you certainly aren't aware
6 of any analysis based on reputation of the
7 fire department and the Department of
8 Buildings, is that right?

9 A. That is right.

10 Q. So one of the nonsalaried
11 differences you mentioned or nonpecuniary
12 differences you mentioned, as we talked
13 about, is that FPIs have enjoyed either
14 five or two and a half additional hours per
15 week off from work, is that right?

16 A. Yes, five for much of the time,
17 two and a half at the end.

18 Q. And you state that
19 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum are
20 understating the compensation of fire
21 protection inspectors by not valuing those
22 hours. That would be at the bottom of Page
23 5, the last sentence of the second-to-last
24 paragraph.

25 A. I see it.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. So in this case, how should
3 they have gone about putting a value on
4 that two and a half to five additional
5 hours of time off per week?

6 A. Again, they could have appealed
7 to the literature on the value of free
8 time.

9 Q. Does that literature place a
10 value on free time that is equal to the
11 value of the extra compensation that the
12 employees would have received if they had
13 worked the two and a half or five hours?

14 A. I'm not sure what you're
15 asking.

16 Q. Well, let's say that if the
17 fire protection inspectors had worked an
18 additional two and a half or five hours per
19 week, they would have been paid at the same
20 hourly rate that they had been earning but
21 now get that in addition, so they get an
22 increase in their pay.

23 How does the literature compare
24 that additional value in terms of money
25 paid against the value of the time off? Is

1 C. ERATH

2 the time off equal to that value?

3 A. I'd have to look back and be
4 sure, but my -- I don't know. I haven't
5 looked recently, so I had better not answer
6 it. I mean, the point I'm making here is
7 there's obviously some value to the
8 flexibility of not having to work those
9 hours on a week-to-week basis.

10 Q. But you aren't opining as to
11 what that value is?

12 A. That's right.

13 Q. And you aren't opining as to
14 whether it's equal to the extra money that
15 the individuals might have received if they
16 had worked that extra two and a half or
17 five hours?

18 A. I am not opining as to the
19 value.

20 Q. Would it change your analysis
21 in this case if hypothetically the union
22 for the fire protection inspectors had
23 bargained for a 40-hour week in 2015 to '16
24 and the 37 and a half hours represented a
25 compromise?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. No.

3 Q. Would it change your analysis
4 in this case if hypothetically the pay of
5 the FPIs increased in 2016 at the rate
6 equal to the extra hours times their hourly
7 rate?

8 A. You're talking about the salary
9 here?

10 Q. Yes.

11 A. I mean, that has nothing to do
12 with the value of the flexibility of the
13 additional time off.

14 Q. If the union were bargaining
15 for a full 40-hour week, wouldn't it
16 indicate to you that at least the union
17 representing the workers thought that there
18 was more value to actually having the
19 people working and getting more salary than
20 having more time off?

21 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

22 A. Impossible to say from what
23 you've told me 'cause, you know, collective
24 bargaining is rarely a one-issue
25 proposition.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Now I asked you near the start
3 of the deposition as we were going through
4 your reliance material about the
5 recruitment brochure that you mention in
6 the last paragraph on Page 5.

7 And you say in that paragraph
8 that the brochure for FPIs advertises that
9 FPIs work only 37.5 hours and are not
10 required to work weekends?

11 Does the brochure include the
12 word only?

13 A. I don't think so.

14 Q. So do you think that the
15 brochure is trying to advertise 37.5 hours
16 as a good thing, something to be desired,
17 or merely a statement of what their regular
18 schedule is?

19 A. We have the next clause that
20 you don't have to work weekends. That
21 would indicate that whoever wrote the
22 brochure has in mind the -- that your work
23 schedule will be a good one. But I can't
24 speak to what the author had in mind beyond
25 that.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. And does the brochure use the
3 words "you're not required to work
4 weekends"?

5 A. That I don't remember.

6 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

7 Q. You said you don't remember?

8 A. I don't remember the specific
9 wording, but I recall the weekends not
10 on -- on the schedule part of it.

11 Q. Do you know whether FPIs do, in
12 fact, work weekends sometimes?

13 A. I'm not certain. I believe I
14 saw that in there but I would have to
15 double-check.

16 Q. And do you know whether they
17 work weekends more or less frequently than
18 DOB inspectors?

19 A. I don't know.

20 Q. And I take it you have no idea
21 what percentage of FPIs would have
22 preferred the higher pay associated with
23 the 40-hour week over having either a 37.5
24 or a 35-hour week?

25 A. I don't know.

1 C. ERATH

2 MR. LIEDER: I see Amanda just
3 sent me the brochure, so let's look
4 at it. Did you also send this to
5 Dr. Erath or does Dr. Erath have it?

6 MS. CROUSHORE: He has it, but
7 I will send it to you again just so
8 we are all looking at the right one.

9 Q. Dr. Erath, do you have a copy
10 of this brochure?

11 A. It just came through.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. I just opened it up.

14 Q. You will see at the bottom of
15 the first page that there is a copyright of
16 2020?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So from that you would infer
19 that this was issued in 2020?

20 A. I would.

21 Q. And then above that, in best in
22 class benefits, it says 37.5 hour workweek
23 with paid holidays. Inspectors are not
24 required to work on weekends.

25 That's what you were looking

1 C. ERATH

2 at?

3 A. That's right.

4 Q. And on 37.5 hours, it doesn't
5 say only, does it?

6 A. It does not.

7 MR. LIEDER: Okay. Why don't
8 we take a lunch break. Let's go off
9 the record and figure out when we
10 should get back.

11 (Whereupon, a luncheon recess
12 was taken at 1:20 p.m.)

13

14 A F T E R N O O N S E S S I O N

15

16 CONTINUED EXAMINATION BY

17 MR. LIEDER:

18 Q. Dr. Erath, before we go to the
19 next topic, I wanted to revisit one area
20 from this morning.

21 If you remember, we looked at
22 the fact that nine of the ten cases that
23 you list as the most recent in which you
24 have testified were for the City of New
25 York.

1 C. ERATH

2 And I asked you about what type
3 of division you thought there was in your
4 testifying work between your work for the
5 city and your work for other clients, and
6 you said roughly 50/50.

7 Do you remember that?

8 A. I don't remember you asking
9 about testifying work. I remember you
10 asking me about expert work.

11 Q. Okay. You are right. I guess
12 there could be expert work that's
13 nontestifying. That's what I wanted to
14 know.

15 Without necessarily revealing
16 your clients, what other type of expert
17 work are you doing that balances out the
18 testifying work that you are doing for the
19 city?

20 A. So the -- the distinction I was
21 drawing -- and I apologize if that wasn't
22 what you were looking for -- was there are
23 a number of cases for which I'm hired as an
24 expert, perhaps even intended to be a
25 testifying expert, but it never gets there

1 C. ERATH

2 because the case revolves in one way or the
3 other.

4 So that's the preponderance of
5 what I'm talking about that, at least as
6 far as I know.

7 It's also the case that a
8 number of assignments I'm engaged and
9 nobody ever says specifically, you know,
10 you are going to testify or we intend for
11 you to testify, and I may -- it may seem
12 that way to me, but that doesn't seem to be
13 the necessary question to address in the
14 first conversation.

15 Q. So when you testified that your
16 expert work was roughly 50/50 between the
17 city and other clients, you were including
18 among the work for other clients these
19 types were situations where you are engaged
20 but are never testifying?

21 A. Right, there's some pieces of
22 litigation involved, but for whatever
23 reason I don't end up testifying.

24 Q. And in some of those cases, do
25 you prepare reports and then you don't

1 C. ERATH

2 testify in a deposition, or does it never
3 even get to a report?

4 A. Some of those. You know,
5 frequently I do a report, but that's the
6 last I'll hear of it. Others there is
7 actually a -- a deposition. But not at all
8 uncommon to not reach that stage.

9 Q. I would like you to go back to
10 your report, Exhibit 1, Page 2. At the
11 bottom of Page 2, you write that you
12 obtained data showing exams applied for by
13 those who held an FPI position during the
14 2005 to '20 period studied by
15 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum.

16 And we talked a little bit
17 about this this morning in connection with
18 your list of materials on which you rely.
19 I know you said you don't know who prepared
20 data. Was it in the form of a spreadsheet?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And even if you don't know who
23 prepared it, do you know what type of
24 methodology they used to prepare it?

25 A. Not sure what you're asking.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. From what records did they
3 obtain this information?

4 A. I don't know.

5 Q. What type of training did the
6 persons have in obtaining or extracting
7 this data from what may have been a larger
8 database or spreadsheet?

9 A. I don't know.

10 Q. Did you request that this type
11 of data be provided to you or was it
12 provided without a request from you?

13 A. I requested it.

14 Q. Did you request that the data
15 be provided before or after you received
16 Dr. Goldstein and Scherbaum's initial
17 report?

18 A. I believe after.

19 Q. How long after you requested
20 the information did it take for the city to
21 send it to you?

22 A. I don't recall.

23 Q. What type of confidence do you
24 have that the spreadsheet data is complete?

25 A. What type of confidence?

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Yes, what is your basis for any
3 confidence that the records are complete?

4 A. I know counsel made the request
5 to the keeper of the records. I assume
6 they would know. Beyond that, I don't know
7 one way or the other.

8 Q. What would be your basis for
9 believing that the information that was
10 provided was accurate?

11 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

12 A. I mean, if you're asking if I
13 looked at the underlying data from which
14 they drew what's in the spreadsheet, I did
15 not. So I used the spreadsheet as it was
16 provided to me.

17 Q. Looking at the last full
18 paragraph of Page 2 of your report, which
19 is, actually there's a partial paragraph
20 below it. You will see that the first
21 sentence says:

22 If, as plaintiffs allege, the
23 FPI and DOB inspector jobs are similar and
24 the DOB positions are paid more, we should
25 observe those in the FPI position

1 C. ERATH

2 attempting to switch jobs and become DOB
3 inspectors.

4 So your focus here, as I
5 understand it, is on people who are FPIs at
6 the time and are seeking -- or and whether
7 or not they attempt to switch jobs to
8 become DOB inspectors, is that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And your theory is that if the
11 jobs are similar but the DOB inspectors are
12 paid more, then as a matter of commission
13 rationality, FPI should apply to become DOB
14 inspectors, is that right?

15 A. Absent other differentiating
16 factors between the two jobs.

17 Q. If the FPIs don't apply or
18 apply infrequently for the DOB positions,
19 what you would infer is that either the
20 jobs are not similar in one or more ways,
21 or that the DOB inspectors are not paid
22 more in compensation, is that correct?

23 A. When the entire compensation
24 package is considered.

25 Q. At any point, did you reach a

1 C. ERATH

2 conclusion whether what you believe is
3 relative lack of movement from the FPIs to
4 the DOB inspector positions is because of
5 lack of similarity of jobs or no real
6 difference in total compensation or both?

7 A. In your question, you said
8 relative lack of movement. Relative to
9 what?

10 Q. Well, you don't say that there
11 is no effort to move. You identified 12
12 people who applied, so I don't want to say
13 no attempt to move. But given the numbers,
14 is your conclusion that those numbers and
15 only those numbers of FPIs applied because
16 the jobs are dissimilar because there's no
17 real difference in total compensation or
18 both?

19 A. I don't reach a conclusion one
20 way or the other. Both of those are
21 possible hypotheses.

22 Q. There could be other
23 explanations as well, couldn't there?

24 A. Conceivably.

25 Q. You don't cite in your report

1 C. ERATH

2 any treatise or other authority for the
3 proposition that job A either must not be
4 similar to job B or job B must not be
5 compensated better than job A. The persons
6 in job A don't apply for positions in job
7 B.

8 Is there some type of authority
9 that you would support for that
10 proposition?

11 A. For the proposition that people
12 would want the higher paying of two similar
13 jobs?

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. Sure. I mean, I think the
16 Ehrenberg and Smith book we talked about
17 this morning has a sentence saying all
18 other things equal, if two jobs pay the
19 same, people will flock to the higher pay.

20 Q. Have you advanced the same
21 theory in any other cases in which you have
22 testified?

23 A. The theory that people would
24 want the higher paying of two identical
25 jobs?

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. It's such a basic concept, I
4 think you wouldn't even advance it. You
5 would just assume it.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Given a choice between more
8 money and less money, and everything else
9 is the same, I'll take the money.

10 Q. The EEOC and other federal
11 agencies issued almost 50 years ago the
12 Uniform Guidelines of Employees Selection
13 Procedures, correct?

14 A. I don't know the timing.

15 Q. You are familiar though with
16 the Uniform Guidelines?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Doesn't it state that the
19 primary means of determining whether two
20 jobs are similar is job content?

21 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

22 A. I -- I haven't read them
23 recently enough to agree or disagree.

24 Q. Do you recall in the Uniform
25 Guidelines any discussion of determining

1 C. ERATH

2 whether jobs are similar by whether there
3 is a movement between the jobs or at least
4 applications to move between the jobs?

5 A. Again, I haven't read them
6 recently enough to remember one way or the
7 other.

8 Q. Now, one possible explanation
9 for lack of movement from one job to
10 another job that pays more, even if they're
11 similar, is whether there are barriers to
12 movement that have been erected, isn't that
13 correct?

14 A. Theoretically, sure.

15 Q. And what did you do in this
16 case to determine whether there were any
17 barriers to movement from one job to the
18 next?

19 A. I don't recall any specific
20 discussion on that topic.

21 Q. I wasn't limiting it to
22 discussion. Just did you do anything to
23 try to determine if there were any barriers
24 to movement from the FPI position to the
25 Department of Building inspector positions?

1 C. ERATH

2 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

3 A. I certainly looked at the NOEs
4 for both jobs, which didn't rule anybody
5 out or suggest that there was any barrier
6 other than the experience and education
7 requirements we've already discussed. So
8 it appears the application for building
9 inspector is open to anyone who meets the
10 minimum requirements enumerated there.

11 Q. In addition to the NOEs, did
12 you look at any other types of documents to
13 determine whether the jobs were similar?

14 A. Well, we have the analysis of
15 the lack of movement we've been discussing.
16 That's certainly on point there. I -- I
17 read the Scherbaum and Goldstein reports
18 that discuss it.

19 Beyond that, no. Let me amend
20 that. I should say I also spent a little
21 bit of time looking at the O*NET database
22 that they signed.

23 Q. Have you ever looked at the
24 O*NET database before?

25 A. Yes, but seldom.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Is it fair to say that
3 Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum tried to
4 analyze the similarity of the job duties
5 and of the KSAs by examining analyses and
6 descriptions of those while you tried to
7 infer whether jobs were similar for your
8 mobility study and the minimum requirements
9 in the NOEs?

10 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

11 A. I think to answer that requires
12 me to be in the head of Scherbaum and
13 Goldstein, so I don't again want to speak
14 for them.

15 Q. Is it fair to say that based on
16 their report, Drs. Goldstein and Scherbaum
17 analyzed the similarity of the job duties
18 and the KSAs by examining job analyses and
19 descriptions of the duties directly while
20 you tried to infer whether the jobs were
21 similar to the mobility studies and develop
22 minimum requirements and in the NOEs?

23 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

24 A. So the part of that question
25 that pertained to me, I analyzed what would

1 C. ERATH

2 have to be the direct implication of the
3 claim that they are making in the report
4 and found evidence to the contrary.

5 In terms of the part of the
6 question that applied to them, it appeared
7 to me that the O*NET-based analysis is not
8 actually looking at the functions performed
9 but rather broad categories of tasks rather
10 than the specifics of what fire inspectors
11 or building inspectors do.

12 Q. Let's focus on you. You are
13 trying to infer whether the jobs are
14 similar primarily through your mobility
15 analysis and the minimum requirements set
16 forth in the NOEs, is that right?

17 A. I'm not trying to infer whether
18 they're similar. I'm looking at a direct
19 implication of the claim that they are
20 similar and noting evidence to the
21 contrary.

22 Q. Dr. Erath, do you have copies
23 of the notices of examination that were
24 previously marked Exhibits 9, 10, 11 and
25 12?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Electronically, yes.

3 Q. If you look at Page 11, your
4 list of reliance materials, you will see
5 under item seven, item or inspector
6 construction NOEs for exams 1011, 5008,
7 0115 and 1164. Do you see that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Are the documents that have
10 been marked as Exhibits 9, 10, 11, and 12
11 those four exams?

12 A. I can go through them one by
13 one. I will take your word for it if
14 they're the same ones, same examiners. 12,
15 6049.

16 Q. Twelve is not right, I'm sorry.
17 So Exhibit 9 is 5,008, which is one of
18 those that you list, is that correct?

19 A. Which one, Exhibit 8 you said?

20 Q. Exhibit 9 is 5,008, which is
21 one of those that you list in Item 7?

22 A. That looks to be the case, yes.

23 Q. And Exhibit 10 is exam number
24 0115, which is also listed in Item 7, is
25 that correct?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Exhibit 10 is 115, yes.

3 Q. And Exhibit 11 was 1164, which
4 is also one of those listed in Item 7?

5 A. Exhibit 11 is 1164.

6 Q. But somehow I have messed up
7 and 6049 is not listed. The one that I am
8 missing is 1011, 1011?

9 A. Looks that way.

10 Q. Do you know what year 1011 was
11 issued?

12 A. No.

13 Q. You make a reference on Page 4
14 of your report to a construction inspector
15 notice for 2010. Could 1,011 have been
16 issued in 2010, do you know?

17 A. I'm sure it could have been.

18 Q. And you believe that you have
19 accurately described the minimum
20 requirements that are set out in the
21 various NOEs for the construction inspector
22 position?

23 A. I mean, I only -- I list the
24 requirements that were in place before the
25 change, so I actually enumerate one, two,

1 C. ERATH

2 three, four, five for the earlier time
3 period -- sorry, one, two, three, four.

4 You asked about construction inspectors.
5 That specifically is talking about 2010 and
6 2014.

7 Q. And then in 2019 you show
8 certain changes to that?

9 A. That's right.

10 Q. And as far as you know, the
11 changes in 2019 are a complete set of the
12 changes that were made?

13 A. Made in 2019?

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. I believe so. I mean, I think
16 I may have taken -- I didn't reproduce the
17 text, obviously, so I wasn't attempting to
18 say it verbatim so it may be my shorthand
19 for what the change was, but yes, with that
20 caveat.

21 Q. And if you go back to the
22 bottom of Page 3 through the top of Page 4,
23 you list five requirements in order to take
24 the FPI exam for the period of 2009 to '15,
25 is that correct?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. That's right.

3 Q. Is that taken verbatim?

4 A. That was my intention.

5 Q. And it was the same each year
6 during that period?

7 A. I believe so.

8 Q. And then in 2017, you
9 describe -- this is on Page 4, the middle
10 paragraph. You describe a change that was
11 made to the FPI exam NOE, is that right?

12 A. Right, that's a change to the
13 education requirement.

14 Q. And you have accurately
15 described what that change is?

16 A. That's probably my paraphrase
17 again, but that was the intent.

18 Q. And as far as you know, the
19 requirements have not changed for the FPI
20 exam since 2017, is that right?

21 A. That's right.

22 Q. And I should have asked you,
23 with respect to the construction inspector
24 exam, as far as you know, the requirements
25 have not changed since 2019?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I -- the 2021 is different.

3 Q. In what way is the 2021
4 different?

5 A. I do not believe there is a
6 multiple-choice test anymore.

7 Q. Other than that, the 2021 you
8 believe is the same as the 2019?

9 A. I believe so.

10 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

11 Q. If you turn to Page 5, you
12 conclude in the first full sentence that
13 knowledge, experience and education
14 requirements clearly differ between the
15 positions. Do you see that?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. And concerning the difference,
18 are you talking primarily in terms of the
19 focus of the experience and education
20 that's required?

21 A. Focus in amount that it was the
22 time period of the study, so five years
23 versus three years there. But you're
24 right, there are differences in the areas
25 of experience that are sought after as

1 C. ERATH

2 well.

3 Q. But as we discussed, at least
4 in the last two years, it's now three years
5 for FPI, two years for construction
6 inspectors?

7 A. Yes, in that first requirement.
8 And we talked about my caveat there, and
9 your point still holds that there's a
10 different type of experience, obviously.

11 Q. You say in the last sentence of
12 the paragraph, we were just looking at the
13 first full paragraph of five, that lack of
14 movement directly contradicts plaintiffs'
15 maintained hypothesis that the jobs are
16 similar. Do you see that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You had said I thought earlier
19 that you haven't reached an opinion about
20 whether the reason for the lack of movement
21 was, that the jobs were similar or whether
22 there was no difference in compensation.
23 So here are you saying that it's because
24 the jobs are dissimilar?

25 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I'm saying that the direct
3 implication of the plaintiffs' assumption
4 should be that we see movement between the
5 two jobs and we do not, so that is a direct
6 contradiction.

7 Q. So have you actually concluded
8 based on the lack of movement that the jobs
9 are not similar?

10 A. That's one possible reason for
11 the lack of movement.

12 Q. But again, there are other
13 possible reasons?

14 A. That's right.

15 Q. So the jobs might be similar,
16 and there might be other reasons for lack
17 of movement?

18 A. It's theoretically possible.
19 Plaintiffs have not advanced such.

20 Q. Is your opinion that the lack
21 of movement directly contradicts
22 plaintiffs' maintained hypothesis that the
23 jobs are similar given your role as a labor
24 economist?

25 A. Yes.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. Let's go back to Page 3 of your
3 report. In the roughly middle paragraph,
4 the one that begins the nearly complete
5 absence, have you found that paragraph?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You will see in the third line
8 that you see that FPIs applied for roughly
9 250 different jobs with said jobs ranging
10 from forester to crime specialist to bus
11 operator.

12 Does the 250 mean that they
13 applied for 250 different job titles?

14 A. That I had seen, 250 different
15 exam titles in the data.

16 Q. So you weren't saying that 250
17 FPIs submitted applications for a job, is
18 that right?

19 A. That's right, it's just a
20 number of different exams I observed in
21 that database.

22 Q. And then you say that one
23 individual applied for 47 exams. Do you
24 see that?

25 A. Yes.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. If you could call or look at
3 what I have marked as Exhibit 4?

4 A. I have it.

5 Q. I will represent to you that
6 this was extracted from the spreadsheet
7 that you provided to us. And if you
8 counted up, this person Katawba DeLarosa
9 applied for 47 different exams.

10 Is this the person to whom you
11 were referring?

12 A. Seems likely. I think there
13 was only one with 47. Thank you for not
14 making me count these.

15 Q. Now, I want to make sure that I
16 correctly understand this.

17 Each line here represents an
18 application, is that correct?

19 A. For an exam, yes.

20 Q. And there is a column that is
21 headed "exam type." You will see that all
22 but one of these is a C and the one
23 exception is a P. Do you see that?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And is it your understanding

1 C. ERATH

2 that P stands for promotional exam?

3 A. That would be my assumption.

4 Q. You haven't checked to confirm
5 that?

6 A. That's my belief. I didn't say
7 I confirmed it one way or the other.

8 Q. The last column is headed
9 "application day." Is it your
10 understanding that that's when the
11 individual actually applied to take the
12 exam?

13 A. I did not specifically ask what
14 that is but that seemed like a reasonable
15 interpretation of the application date.

16 Q. You will see that his first
17 exam that he applied for was dated January
18 19, 1999. Do you see that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That's obviously before 2005.
21 So were you looking at applications that
22 were submitted before fiscal year 2005 when
23 you were doing your analysis?

24 A. So when I counted the number of
25 applications for this individual, I was

1 C. ERATH

2 looking at all of them.

3 Q. When you were counting the
4 number of different job titles applied for,
5 were you counting all of them or just the
6 ones from 2005 forward?

7 A. I don't recall.

8 Q. We are going to come back to
9 this, but I want to go to what's been
10 marked as Exhibit 5. And I will represent
11 to you that these were the entries for the
12 first looks like five, if I count right,
13 five persons in your spreadsheet.

14 You will see that the first
15 individual, Lionel Hudson, all of his
16 applications were made before 2005. Do you
17 see that?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you know, would any
20 applications that he made have been
21 considered in your statement about the
22 type, the number of different types of
23 tests that were taken?

24 A. So if you're asking
25 specifically when I said there were 250

1 C. ERATH

2 different exams that somebody applied for?

3 Is that what you're asking about?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. So as I said, I don't recall

6 whether I put a date limitation on that.

7 It would only matter to the count of 250

8 if, for instance, Mr. Hudson were the only

9 bus operator 'cause I'm not -- I'm not

10 counting individual bus operator

11 applications but rather just looking at

12 okay, bus operator was one that was on the

13 list.

14 So I don't know whether that

15 250 would become 249 in that instance, so I

16 was merely attempting to illustrate that

17 there are a lot of different jobs for which

18 these folks apply.

19 Q. You also had a count that we

20 looked at earlier that there were 669 fire

21 protection inspectors in the analysis that

22 you performed.

23 Do you know whether Mr. Hudson

24 would or would not be in that count of 669?

25 A. I assume he would, but I don't

1 C. ERATH

2 know for sure.

3 Q. So you think you may not have
4 excluded people like him who had applied
5 before 2005?

6 A. Well, the analysis that's being
7 done here, remember, is whether we see
8 people moving from FPI to an inspector job
9 in the -- in the Department of Buildings.
10 So, you know, to be on this list, he would
11 have had to be an FPI of 2005 or later, and
12 therefore, you know, it's a valid
13 observation for someone who did not put his
14 hat in the Department of Buildings' ring
15 during the relevant period.

16 Q. Let's go back to Exhibit 4,
17 Mr. DeLarosa. If you go through this list,
18 you will see that about two-thirds of the
19 way down is when he applies to become a
20 fire protection inspector. Do you see
21 that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And you will see the
24 application date is from 2017?

25 A. Yes, I see that.

1 C. ERATH

2 Q. So he couldn't become an FPI
3 before he took that exam, correct?

4 A. I believe that's true.

5 Q. The exams that he applied for
6 before March 19, 2017, do they indicate
7 anything about the types of jobs for which
8 FPIs were applying?

9 A. Again, the -- what I'm using
10 this for is merely to illustrate that these
11 individuals who were FPIs also considered a
12 wide variety of jobs.

13 So Mr. DeLarosa, who did become
14 an FPI, as we can see here, Exhibit 4,
15 considered a wide variety of positions.

16 Q. But many of them, the majority
17 were considered before he became an FPI,
18 right?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Now, do you know, did he have
21 the minimum qualifications to become a fire
22 protection inspector in 2009 let's say when
23 he was applying for other jobs?

24 A. I don't know.

25 Q. Or the minimum qualifications

1 C. ERATH

2 to become a building inspector in 2017?

3 A. I don't know anything about his
4 qualifications.

5 Q. So you are not really analyzing
6 whether FPIs were applying to become
7 building inspectors, you are analyzing
8 whether people who at some time became an
9 FPI were applying for other types of jobs
10 or building inspector jobs, is that right?

11 A. No, I don't think that's right.

12 Q. And what is wrong about that?

13 A. You -- the beginning of your
14 question was -- said that I wasn't
15 considering whether FPIs became building
16 inspectors. That was the primary focus of
17 the analysis. So that is the basis of my
18 disagreement.

19 Q. But in 2009, for instance, he
20 was not an FPI, correct?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. And you don't know what his
23 qualifications were in 2009?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. So if he were applying to other

1 C. ERATH

2 types of positions, then it doesn't reflect
3 whether FPIs were applying for other types
4 of positions, it reflects whether people
5 who at some time became FPIs were applying?

6 A. I mean, as I say in the report,
7 I'm looking at people who were FPIs and
8 whether they moved to building inspector.
9 And the answer is, no one has.

10 Mr. DeLarosa is one such example.

11 Q. Even after Mr. DeLarosa applied
12 to become an FPI, he wouldn't become an FPI
13 immediately, correct?

14 A. Yes, that's correct.

15 Q. He would have to take the test,
16 have the test graded, and then there would
17 have to be openings that reached him before
18 he would be called, is that right?

19 A. He would clearly be hired at
20 some subsequent time to the exam.

21 Q. Would you look at what was
22 marked as Exhibit 7.

23 A. I have it.

24 Q. Have you ever heard of the
25 database SeeThroughNY?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Not under that name, no.

3 Q. I will represent that this is a
4 publicly available database. You will see
5 it is addressed www.SeeThroughNY.net. That
6 shows for certain information about the
7 position and pay of all New York State
8 employees. And you will see that until
9 fiscal year 2020, he does not show as a
10 fire protection inspector.

11 MS. CROUSHORE: I will just
12 note an objection to the use of this
13 document, which is not any sort of
14 official city document or anything.

15 A. I see an entry for FPI pay year
16 2020, if that's what you're asking.

17 Q. Do you know whether
18 Mr. DeLarosa wasn't hired until year 2020
19 as a fire protection inspector?

20 A. I have not committed his
21 employment history to memory.

22 Q. Let's assume that that is
23 correct, that he became a fire protection
24 inspector at some time in fiscal year 2020.
25 If we go back to Exhibit 4, doesn't it

1 C. ERATH

2 reflect that he applied for only three
3 tests after he became a fire protection
4 inspector?

5 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

6 A. Sorry. Are you asking me to
7 assume he became fire protection inspector
8 when?

9 Q. In fiscal year 2020.

10 A. Yes. And there are -- there
11 are three entries in 2020 or later, if
12 that's what you're asking.

13 Q. And one of those is for a
14 promotional exam to associate fire
15 protection inspector?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. So Mr. DeLarosa applied for
18 only two other positions, if you exclude
19 the fire protection inspector chain, after
20 he became and while he was a fire
21 protection inspector, is that right?

22 A. As of the date of this
23 document, yes.

24 MS. CROUSHORE: I am sorry this
25 is late, but I would like to object

1 C. ERATH

2 to that last question, please.

3 A. Is now a good time for a break?

4 Q. Sure.

5 (Whereupon, a short recess was
6 taken.)

7 Q. Dr. Erath, you identify in the
8 same sentence that we looked at where you
9 referred to the 250 different jobs, three
10 specific ones. I believe they were bus
11 operator, forester and crime specialist?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Do you see that?

14 A. Yes, I do.

15 Q. I looked at the spreadsheet and
16 found that only one application for
17 forester in the data. And if you pull up
18 Exhibit 8, you will see where that occurs,
19 a Mr. Charles Lyons.

20 MR. LIEDER: And Judy, Lyons is
21 spelled, L-Y-O-N-S.

22 A. I see Mr. Lyons applying for
23 forester in 2013.

24 Q. Yes. And he doesn't apply for
25 a fire protection inspector position until

1 C. ERATH

2 2017, is that correct?

3 A. So this says.

4 Q. And if the spreadsheet is
5 correct, the only applications for a
6 forester position was before the candidate
7 became fire protection inspector?

8 A. If your representation is
9 accurate, that this is the only forester
10 application, 2013 is before 2017.

11 Q. So again, Mr. Lyons did not
12 apply for a forester position in an effort
13 to move from fire protection inspector to
14 another type of job, is that correct?

15 A. The forester application is
16 before he became a fire protection
17 inspector.

18 Q. I also looked for the job of
19 prime specialist, which you include, and I
20 didn't find any prime specialist in the
21 spreadsheet. If you want to search, you
22 could. I did find two instances of someone
23 applying for the job of crime analyst. Is
24 that what you meant?

25 A. I would hope I wrote the job

1 C. ERATH

2 down correctly, but I don't remember one
3 way or the other.

4 Q. If you go back to the paragraph
5 that refers to 250 different jobs, you will
6 see that the last sentence says nearly 80
7 percent of FPIs applied for an exam other
8 than FPI or associate FPI.

9 Do you know how many of those
10 applications were submitted exclusively
11 either before 2004 or before the applicant
12 actually became an FPI or associate FPI?

13 A. No.

14 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

15 A. All I'm trying to do here is
16 demonstrate that this group of individuals
17 has a wide range of potential interests.

18 Q. Would it surprise you that the
19 majority of the applications in the
20 spreadsheet are from either before 2004 or
21 before the candidate became an FPI?

22 A. I don't have any basis to be
23 surprised or unsurprised.

24 Q. And that if you eliminate
25 applications for an associate FPI position

1 C. ERATH

2 from those who were already FPIs, that that
3 eliminates another roughly two-thirds of
4 the applications?

5 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

6 A. I have not studied that
7 question.

8 Q. Dr. Erath, we looked earlier at
9 the NOEs for the construction inspector
10 position. Do you remember that?

11 A. I do.

12 Q. And the NOEs that I marked as
13 exhibits were from 2021, 2019 and 2014 and
14 then also one from 2006. Do you remember
15 that?

16 A. That sounds right.

17 Q. And you refer to an NOE in your
18 report from 2010, is that right?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Well, let me back up and ask a
21 different question first.

22 Are you aware of any other NOEs
23 for construction inspector positions
24 bearing the 2005 to a period forward?

25 A. Am I aware of any? No. But I

1 C. ERATH

2 haven't attempted to commit an exhaustive
3 list to memory.

4 Q. Do you know whether the
5 spreadsheet that you were relying on shows
6 applications from FPIs only in those years,
7 2006, '10, '14, '19 and '21?

8 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

9 A. Are you asking do I see
10 applications from FPIs for building
11 construct or exams other than those?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. I don't know that I
14 cross-referenced those two sources.

15 Q. Let's assume for now that there
16 were just those five during the period from
17 2005 to '21, 2006, '10, '14, '19, '21. So
18 I know between '19 and '21 it is shorter
19 and between 2014 and 2019 is a little
20 longer but essentially every four years,
21 right?

22 A. It's not really every four
23 years, but it is what it is.

24 Q. How long do individuals have
25 under the NOEs to apply for an exam? Or

1 C. ERATH

2 let me narrow it, apply for a construction
3 inspector exam?

4 A. How long from what? How long
5 is the exam period?

6 Q. How long is the application
7 period?

8 A. I don't recall.

9 Q. I think if you look at the
10 exams, it is three weeks.

11 A. Would you like me to do that?

12 Q. Sure.

13 A. I opened the 2019 one up. You
14 are correct there. Do you want me to keep
15 going or --

16 Q. No, that's fine. So if there
17 were five exams and each time there was a
18 three-week application period, the five
19 protection inspectors could apply only for
20 15 weeks out of the 16-week period or
21 16-year period, is that correct?

22 A. If those are the only exams and
23 they're all three weeks, five times three
24 is certainly 15 to take the exam.

25 Q. Do you have any idea how many

1 C. ERATH

2 exams were offered for other types of jobs
3 during the 2005 to '20 period?

4 A. Any other type of job?

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. No.

7 Q. The opportunity to apply for
8 other types of jobs was much greater than
9 the opportunity of FPIs to apply for
10 building inspector jobs, is that correct?

11 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

12 A. I don't have a list of other
13 jobs in front of me, but I would not be
14 surprised were that the case.

15 Q. Did you look at all at the
16 types of jobs for which FPIs applied most
17 frequently?

18 A. I don't believe I did.

19 Q. I will represent to you that
20 for applications for people who were at the
21 time of the application FPIs, the most
22 frequent was for firefighter.

23 Do you know, was the average
24 compensation of firefighters more than the
25 average compensation of FPIs?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. I believe so.

3 Q. Is it more than the average
4 compensation of construction inspectors?

5 A. That I don't know.

6 Q. Did you look at the minimum
7 qualifications to take the test for
8 firefighters?

9 A. No.

10 Q. If the average compensation of
11 firefighters was greater than the average
12 compensation of construction inspectors and
13 if the individuals, the fire protection
14 inspectors could meet the minimum
15 qualifications, would it make sense for
16 them to apply for firefighters' positions
17 than for the construction manager
18 positions?

19 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

20 A. You mean construction
21 inspector?

22 Q. Yes, I'm sorry, construction
23 inspector, sorry.

24 A. Would it make more sense? I
25 mean, your question presupposes that they

1 C. ERATH

2 can only apply for one. It depends on the
3 likelihood of getting them. That's
4 impossible to answer from the information
5 provided.

6 Q. So one of the factors that
7 presumably an economically rational actor
8 or fire protection inspector should
9 consider is the likelihood of getting the
10 job?

11 A. In what content?

12 Q. Well, I thought that that was
13 in your answer, that you said that you
14 didn't know what the likelihood of getting
15 the job would be.

16 A. I was attempting to. I didn't
17 know you were following along with your
18 previous question. Perhaps we should start
19 over.

20 Q. Okay.

21 From the point of view of an
22 economically rational actor, if a fire
23 protection inspector could meet the minimum
24 requirements for a construction inspector
25 position and a firefighter position, and if

1 C. ERATH

2 the firefighter position paid more on
3 average than the construction inspector
4 position, would it make more sense for them
5 to apply for the firefighter position than
6 the construction inspector position?

7 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

8 A. Make more sense? I mean, I
9 assume they could apply for both and have
10 two avenues open to them, but very hard to
11 answer that question from what you said.

12 Q. Do you know whether other jobs
13 in the top five jobs for which fire
14 protection inspectors applied offered more
15 pay than did the construction inspector
16 position?

17 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

18 A. As I mentioned, I did not study
19 what those jobs are.

20 Q. Or what the pay of those jobs
21 are either, is that right?

22 A. Since I don't know what the
23 jobs are, I don't know what they pay.

24 Q. In the file that you received
25 of the HR actions involving both the fire

1 C. ERATH

2 protection inspectors and the building
3 inspectors, do you recall a field called
4 civil service code description?

5 A. Not with specificity, but
6 wouldn't surprise me were it there.

7 Q. And do you recall seeing a
8 field, even if you don't remember the name
9 of it, that contained information
10 identifying the process by which fire
11 protection inspectors and building
12 inspectors were selected?

13 A. What do you mean by process?

14 Q. Well, whether it was through a
15 competitive process or a provisional
16 appointment or a noncompetitive process?

17 A. That sounds familiar.

18 Q. Did you look at that particular
19 field to evaluate which process was used
20 primarily in the selection of fire
21 protection inspectors and building or
22 construction inspectors?

23 A. No.

24 Q. So do you have any idea whether
25 fire protection inspectors were selected

1 C. ERATH

2 primarily through a different mechanism
3 than construction inspectors and building
4 inspectors?

5 A. I don't know.

6 Q. You don't know that under 30
7 percent of construction inspectors were
8 selected through provisional appointments
9 rather than the competitive process?

10 A. I don't know the figure.

11 Q. Even if you didn't know the
12 figure, did you know that a large
13 percentage of construction inspectors were
14 selected provisionally rather than through
15 the competitive process?

16 A. I did not attempt to calibrate
17 that number.

18 Q. Could you turn to Page 7 of
19 your report?

20 A. I have it.

21 Q. And you will see that you are
22 quoting extensively from the testimony of
23 plaintiff Darren Connors?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And you will see that his

1 C. ERATH

2 second answer references that he did apply
3 for a position as a buildings inspector
4 provisional -- I assume it meant
5 provisionally -- and he received a job
6 offer from the Department of Buildings? Do
7 you see that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And if you go down about
10 two-thirds of the way through the colloquy,
11 you will get to an answer: Yes, after
12 seeing the inner office and speaking to the
13 person who was in charge of hiring a
14 provisional, it was not worth it for me.

15 Do you see that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you infer from this
18 dialogue or that testimony that you
19 prescribed that he at least was offered a
20 position provisionally?

21 A. He says he received a job offer
22 from the Department of Buildings.

23 Q. And did that prompt you at all
24 to look at how the Department of Buildings
25 was filling positions?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. Not sure what you mean.

3 Q. Did that cause you to look at
4 the field we were talking about that
5 identifies whether employees are being
6 hired through a competitive process or
7 provisionally?

8 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

9 A. I knew there were provisional
10 hires to building inspectors. I knew there
11 were competitive hires and that those who
12 were hired provisionally would eventually
13 have to take the exam to keep their job.
14 So either way, the exam would be a
15 requirement.

16 Q. Do you know whether FPIs
17 generally knew that the Department of
18 Buildings hired most of its inspectors
19 provisionally outside the competitive
20 process?

21 A. I don't know that the latter
22 part of your statement's true, and I also
23 don't know what is in the mind of FPIs.

24 Q. Let's assume that for purposes
25 of this question hypothetically that fire

1 C. ERATH

2 protection inspectors generally knew that
3 the Department of Buildings hired most of
4 its inspectors provisionally rather than
5 through the examination process.

6 Do you have an opinion as a
7 labor economist as to whether it would
8 affect their interest in applying to take
9 the construction inspector test?

10 A. Well, that depends on what
11 other information. We are assuming that,
12 you know, if they knew, that they could
13 take the job provisionally and then would
14 have to pass the test, that puts them in
15 largely the same position of needing to
16 pass that test in order to be -- to remain
17 a building inspector.

18 So you know, either way, yeah,
19 you're gonna need to face that exam at some
20 point. So if you want to make the move,
21 you should take it.

22 Q. You quote from the testimony of
23 Darren Connors and of Darryl Chalmers. Did
24 you read the deposition testimony of the
25 other three plaintiffs?

1 C. ERATH

2 A. The other three named
3 plaintiffs?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. Yes, I did.

6 Q. You are aware then that the
7 fire protection inspectors frequently work
8 on joint task forces with the Department of
9 Buildings inspectors?

10 A. I don't know about frequently.
11 I know I -- I do recall a reference to
12 joint task forces.

13 Q. Wouldn't that provide an avenue
14 for fire protection inspectors to learn
15 about the processes by which the Department
16 of Buildings hired its inspectors?

17 MS. CROUSHORE: Objection.

18 A. Because they could talk to
19 construction inspectors? Is that your --

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. -- hypothesis?

22 Q. Yes, while they're working.

23 A. I don't know one way or the
24 other if being on a joint task force meant
25 you were standing next to the person or

1 C. ERATH

2 were three floors away or, I mean, what

3 opportunity you had for communication.

4 I -- I don't know.

5 MR. LIEDER: I have no other

6 questions.

7 MS. CROUSHORE: I just have a

8 couple of really quick ones

9 hopefully. Famous last words, I

10 know.

11 EXAMINATION BY

12 MS. CROUSHORE:

13 Q. Dr. Erath, you were talking
14 earlier about your note in your report that
15 FPIs applied for roughly 250 different
16 jobs, right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. If 50 people applied for the
19 associate FPI position, would that count as
20 50 in that 250 or as one?

21 A. That's one. Those are
22 different jobs.

23 Q. And then when we were just
24 talking about Department of Buildings
25 hiring provisionally, when you were looking

1 C. ERATH

2 at whether FPIs moved to Department of
3 Buildings, I know you looked at the exams
4 that they took.

5 Did you also look at the larger
6 data set of sort of HR information about
7 all of the FPIs and building inspectors to
8 see whether anybody actually did move from
9 FPI to Buildings?

10 MR. LIEDER: Objection.

11 A. I did. I'm sorry. I did look
12 at those data and -- and no one made that
13 move.

14 Q. Had somebody applied for the
15 job provisionally and gotten the job
16 provisionally and taken the job through
17 that process, would they have appeared in
18 that data as having moved?

19 A. That is my assumption.

20 MS. CROUSHORE: Okay. Thank
21 you. That's all my questions.

22 MR. LIEDER: I have no other
23 questions. Thank you very much,
24 Dr. Erath.

25 MS. CROUSHORE: Yes, thank you.

1 C. ERATH

2 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

3 (Whereupon, at 4:10 P.M., the

4 Examination of this witness was

5 concluded.)

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CHRISTOPHER ERATH

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I hereby certify that having been
first duly sworn to testify to the truth, I
gave the above testimony.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing
transcript is a true and correct transcript
of the testimony given by me at the time
and place specified hereinbefore.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this ____ day of _____ 2021.

NOTARY PUBLIC

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E X H I B I T S

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PLAINTIFF EXHIBITS

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EXHIBIT EXHIBIT

7

DESCRIPTION

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10 (Exhibits retained by Counsel.)

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EXAMINATION BY

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Mr. Lieder

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Ms. Croushore

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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STATE OF NEW YORK)
: SS.:

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COUNTY OF ROCKLAND)

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I, JUDY ROSENBERG, a Notary Public

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for and within the State of New York, do

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hereby certify:

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That the witness whose examination is

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hereinbefore set forth was duly sworn and

12

that such examination is a true record of

13

the testimony given by that witness.

14

I further certify that I am not

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related to any of the parties to this

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action by blood or by marriage and that I

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am in no way interested in the outcome of

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this matter.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto

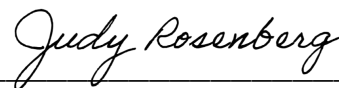
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set my hand this 10th day of August, 2021.

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JUDY ROSENBERG

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A		
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